

# The Baptist Record

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## Smith announces resolutions body

DEL CITY, Okla. (BP) — The resolutions committee for the 1981 Southern Baptist Convention has been announced by Bailey E. Smith, SBC president.

Charles Graves, pastor of Nichols Hills Baptist Church in Oklahoma City and a member of the SBC Executive Committee, will be chairman.

Under the SBC Constitution, three of the 10 members of the committee must be members of the SBC Executive Committee, which functions as the convention between annual sessions.

The other two Executive Committee representatives are Gordon Doran, pastor of Olivet Baptist Church in Wichita, Kansas, and John Sullivan, pastor of Broadmoor Baptist Church in Shreveport, La., and president of the Louisiana Baptist Convention.

Others named are Bob Bacon, pastor of Del Norte Baptist Church in Albuquerque, N. M., and president of the Baptist Convention of New Mexico; Barbara (Mrs. Jack) Taylor of Fort Worth, Texas, and wife of the first vice president of the SBC.

Morris Chapman, pastor of First Baptist Church of Wichita Falls, Texas; Billy Barber, pastor of First Baptist Church, Tampa, Fla.; Carl Garrett, pastor of First Baptist Church, Carthage, Mo.; Joel Gregory, pastor of Gambrell Street Baptist Church of Fort Worth, Texas, and Carol (Mrs. John) Swartz of Escondido, Calif.

In the Baptist Record's listing of Mississippians nominated for SBC boards, the hometown of Jerry S. Lee, (Continued on page 2)

## Second term challenger

# Abner McCall to oppose Smith for SBC presidency

By Dan Martin

HUNTSVILLE, Ala. (BP) — Abner V. McCall, president of Baylor University in Waco, Texas, will be nominated to oppose Bailey Smith for the presidency of the 13.6 million-member Southern Baptist Convention.

"I have asked for and received his permission to put his name into nomination," said Ralph Langley, pastor of First Baptist Church of Huntsville, and a long-time supporter of the Texas Baptist school.

Smith, pastor of First Southern Baptist Church in Del City, Okla., was elected at the 1980 annual meeting in St. Louis and has announced his intention to seek the traditional second term.

McCall, Langley said, will give Southern Baptists a clear choice "against the anti-education, anti-

institution, anti-board, anti-literature mentality current in the convention."

"Dr. McCall waged a fight for Christian higher education under the Baptist banner in Texas. The (Paul) Pressler-(Paige) Patterson coalition staged a significant struggle against Baylor. Dr. McCall was in the middle of the battle and he stood tall. He won it," Langley said.

He referred to the effort, said directed by Pressler, a Houston appeals court judge, and Patterson, president of Criswell Center for Biblical Studies in Dallas, against Baylor and the chairman of its religion department, Jack Flanders, over a book Flanders wrote and which was used as a text in religion classes.

McCall told Baptist Press he realizes the "odds are against" his winning the presidency, but said he

thinks the "group primarily backing Smith have given support to an attitude of exclusion of a substantial segment of Southern Baptist people. They say 'If you don't agree with me you ought to be removed from all boards and committees, in fact excluded from participation in Southern Baptist affairs.'"

"Such a spirit threatens not only the Cooperative Program but also the whole program of the Southern Baptist Convention," and is "the spirit of the spoils system," he said.

McCall added he believes the inerrancy issue "is largely a stalking horse. All of our people are conservative, Bible-believing Baptists. The people who say they are the only ones who are looking at the Bible in just the right way are the ones who are divisive."

He also added that if "reading the Bible doesn't make you love your brethren, then something must be wrong with you."

(Continued on page 2)

## FMB seeks larger exemption for overseas missionary tax

By Larry Chesser

WASHINGTON (BP) — The Southern Baptist Convention's Foreign Mission Board is urging a Senate finance subcommittee to increase the amount and scope of the current overseas income tax exclusion.

In written testimony to the Subcommittee on Taxation and Debt Management, the board asks the panel to increase the amount of current \$20,000 tax exclusion and to make it applicable to all foreign countries, not just lesser developed ones covered under current tax law.

The senate subcommittee is considering several legislative proposals which would liberalize tax treatment of Americans working abroad. Some of the present proposals apply to all foreign earned income, not just that of charitable workers.

In its final days, the last Congress restored a \$20,000 tax exemption for charitable workers in lesser developed countries after an all-out effort by the

board and other charitable groups to restore the exclusion which would have been removed by the Foreign Earned Income Act of 1978.

The board testimony describes as "highly desirable" legislation such as two of the proposals — S. 408 introduced by Sen. John H. Chafee, R-R.I., and S. 436 introduced by Sen. Lloyd Bentsen, D-Texas.

Chafee's bill would exclude the first \$50,000 of foreign earned income plus one-half of the next \$50,000. Bentsen's proposal would exclude \$75,000 beginning in 1981, increasing to \$95,000 by 1985.

In its testimony, the board cites such benevolent programs as sanitation and public health, medical ministries, schools, literacy courses, community development centers, children's homes, agricultural centers and efforts to combat world hunger and respond to natural disasters and the needs of refugees.

Such "worldwide programs for

human welfare" would benefit from legislation applying the exclusion worldwide and increasing its amount, it says.

The board was one of 19 organizations and individuals to provide testimony on the new tax proposals.

## BWA president attends Baptist consultation in USSR preaches peace

MOSCOW — The peoples of Europe, "a long-suffering continent," are particularly threatened by recent events which place the world on the brink of a nuclear catastrophe.

Because Christ did not come to destroy life but to save all people, 40 Baptist leaders from ten countries "lift our voices for the cause of peace and for

building confidence among nations," according to a message from the Second International Seminar-Consultation with participation of Baptists from socialist countries.

The event, which drew 40 registrants and numerous guests, was initiated and hosted by the All-Union Council of Evangelical Christians-Baptists in the USSR, April 24. The AUCECB also organized a reception for the participants, which other USSR religious leaders and government representatives attended as guests.

The seminar-consultation adopted a final message "urgently calling upon all governments" to:

- cease immediately the development and production of all new types of armaments, including the neutron bomb;
- stop installation of new and additional weapons in Europe;
- gather again at the negotiating table to discuss disarmament; and
- support a confidence-building zone in Europe and the Indian Ocean area.

The message further asked "all people of good will to join us in building up (this spirit) which is the foundation for lasting peace," and urged all Christians to "pray regularly and earnestly for world peace, and to choose life by making real the power of confidence in Christ and in each other, for 'in confidence shall be your strength'." (Isaiah 30:15)

Through all times European Christians have fulfilled the Gospel words (Rom. 12:15) "weep with those who weep; rejoice with those who rejoice," by sharing in grief and suffering as well as joy and future hope for this continent, the message noted.

Baptist World Alliance President Duke McCall, General Secretary Gerhard Claas, and Regional Secretary for Europe Knud Wumpelmann, addressed the meeting and preached at three worship services of the Moscow (Central) Baptist Church. During one of the services Claas baptized 17 new Christian converts.

The seminar-consultation met under the theme "Confidence Building — Choosing Life."

It was the second such meeting for Baptists from socialist countries. The first seminar-consultation took place in Moscow in 1978.

## Inerrancy

A recent speech by Robert Bratcher, translator of the "Good News for Modern Man," New Testament, at a seminar, has caused a great deal of discussion among Southern Baptists. A report of his speech, which included statements on biblical inerrancy, and editorial comments are offered on page four.



Duke McCall, Baptist World Alliance President, speaks to a reception given by the All-Union Council of Evangelical Christians — Baptists during the Consultation — "Choosing Life" in Moscow in April. Shown in photo (l-r) are: Vasily Logvinenko, senior pastor of the Moscow Baptist Church; McCall; I. Gospodinov, pastor of the Baptist Church in Varna, Bulgaria; Sergei Nikolaev, Baptist superintendent in the Northern Russia region of USSR; and Alexei Bichkov, general secretary of the AUCECB.



Gerhard Claas, general secretary of the Baptist World Alliance performed a baptismal service for 17 new converts at the Moscow Baptist Church.

## Historical Commission to interpret SBC life

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (BP) — The Southern Baptist Historical Commission in its annual meeting adopted a sweeping long range planning committee report that recommends, among other things, expanding the commission's role as interpreter of Southern Baptist heritage and life.

Trustees also decreased their administrative committee from 10 to seven persons in a cost saving move.

They approved participation in the Southern Baptist Video Network, a denomination-wide project, and will be responsible for developing six video productions on Southern Baptist heritage and polity for national distribution.

The report reaffirms the status of the Historical Commission as a service

agency for all aspects of Southern Baptist life, relating to the SBC, SBC agencies, state conventions, associations, local churches, and individual Baptists upon the basis of service, helping them to know and act upon insights from our Baptist heritage.

The three areas for focus are that the Historical Commission: 1) serve Southern Baptists by intensifying and expanding its role as interpreter of Southern Baptist heritage and life; 2) continue to develop a library containing all necessary materials to become a world center for the study of Southern Baptist heritage and life; and 3) continue to produce and distribute materials for the study of Baptist heritage and life.

The report recommends the agency (Continued on page 2)

## Prayer leader emphasizes needs of the missionaries

By Anita Bowden

RICHMOND, Va. (BP) — Long ago Catherine Walker determined that she would retire from overseas work at age 65.

She always figured she'd rest awhile and then maybe teach at one of the Southern Baptist seminaries or go back overseas as a volunteer. But only three months after retirement she has taken on a major responsibility at the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board as the president's special assistant for intercessory prayer — a job

held by Rogers Smith before he died Oct. 3, 1980.

"I want our missionaries to be able to express their prayer requests in specific language so they can recognize when the requests are answered and let us know," she says. "Instead of asking us to 'pray for our revival' they need to ask us to pray for a specific number of decisions or number to attend, or something like that."

"It's scary to get specific — or have any goal setting — because it's discouraging when you don't get there," she says. But she believes Southern Baptists are willing to pray if they know exactly what to pray for and they will be encouraged to pray more if they know their prayers are being answered.

Getting the prayer needs of foreign missionaries to Southern Baptists willing to pray will be her major emphasis. Prayer requests with long range goals can be presented through periodicals. Urgent or crisis requests will have to be communicated more quickly, perhaps through a prayer network including ham radio operators and religious radio stations.

"I'd like to see all Baptists form the habit of praying for missions daily," she says. Recently a woman told her that she had been praying for Miss Walker and a home missionary for a full year. Each year the woman chooses a different home and foreign missionary to pray for.

"That's a good method," says Miss Walker, who is open to other suggestions, too. "I really feel I'm learning a lot about prayer now. I know about obedience and sacrifice. But I never would hold up my prayer life as a model."

"But I'm not concerned with my capabilities. I've found God uses a person as he is. It's good to know that the Lord wants to use you. We need to be more aware of things to pray about, wherever you are."

For the last 28 years Miss Walker has done most of her praying in In-

donesia where she taught at the Indonesian Baptist Theological Seminary. After two years of language study, she became one of the three original seminary staff members in 1954 when Baptist work in Indonesia was less than three years old.

The seminary operated only on its own for 20 years as the student body grew from 12 to 125. By the early 1970s there were not enough full-time church positions to absorb the students graduating each year.

That's when Miss Walker and others realized the theological education at the seminary was too oriented toward large churches, based on American models. They began developing an expanded approach to seminary training and taking the seminary to the students through extension centers.

Her major emphasis before retirement was on guiding the production of programmed instruction textbooks for theological education by extension.

## Ebenezer will celebrate 175th year

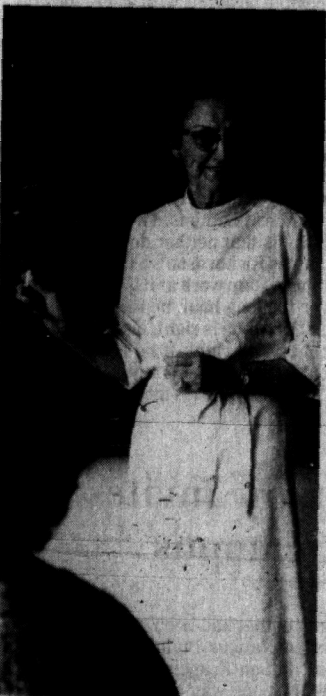
Ebenezer Church, Rt. 5, Liberty, Mississippi Association, will celebrate its 175th anniversary on Sunday, May 10. The church, organized in 1806, is the oldest continuously active Baptist church in Mississippi.

The May 10 program will begin at 10:30 a.m. Earl Kelly, executive secretary-treasurer, Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, will be the featured speaker during the morning service. Dinner will be served on the grounds.

During the afternoon, different group singers will be presented.

May 10 - May 15 will be revival time at the church. Odus Jackson will be the evangelist.

Mrs. James E. Alford is chairman of the 175th anniversary committee. Alvin Hall is the pastor.



Before her retirement in December, Catherine Walker taught for 26 years at the Indonesian Baptist Theological Seminary in Semarang. Feb. 20 she began new duties as special assistant to the president of the Foreign Mission Board with responsibilities in intercessory prayer. (BP) PHOTO by Eddy Wiradinata



## Southern Baptist Pastors' Conference

Los Angeles Convention Center  
Los Angeles, CA  
June 7-8, 1981

### Sunday Evening, June 7

Theme: "We Would See Jesus in Our Homes"

Jim Henry, Pastors' Conference president and pastor of First Baptist Church, Orlando, FL, presiding

- 6:00 "Let's Just Praise the Lord" — with Joe Ann Shelton and Loeen Bushmah, Fort Worth, TX  
6:15 Invocation — Kenneth Wayne Fields, First Baptist Church, Grand Bay, AL  
Welcome to California — Robert Hughes, executive secretary, California Baptist Convention, Fresno, CA  
6:20 Congregational Singing — Ragan M. Vandegriff III, First Baptist Church, Orlando, FL  
6:25 Special Music — Joe Ann Shelton  
6:30 Message — Bill Bennett, First Baptist Church, Fort Smith, AR  
6:55 Testimony — James Mahoney, First Baptist Church, Alvin, TX  
7:05 Congregational Hymn and Offering  
7:15 Message — Calvin Miller, Westside Baptist Church, Omaha, NE  
7:40 Congregational Singing  
7:45 Prayer Plan for the Convention — Jack Taylor, Fort Worth, TX  
7:50 "I Promise to Love" — The ReGeneration, Nashville, TN  
8:30 Congregational Hymn  
8:35 Message — Adrian Rogers, Bellevue Baptist Church, Memphis, TN  
Benediction — Tom Billings, First Baptist Church, Siloam Springs, AR

### Monday Morning, June 8

Theme: "We Would See Jesus in Our Ministry"

Jim Henry, presiding

- 8:45 "Let's Just Praise the Lord" — with Ron and Pat Owens, Fort Worth, TX  
9:00 Invocation — Mark Pendleton, Richmond, CA  
Congregational Hymn — Ragan M. Vandegriff III, Orlando, FL  
9:05 Testimony — Ras Robinson, Fort Worth, TX  
9:20 Message — Junior Hill, evangelist, Hartselle, AL  
9:45 Congregational Singing  
9:50 Solo — Bill Cox, Baptist Sunday School Board, Nashville, TN  
9:55 Message — Jess Moody, First Baptist Church, Van Nuys, CA  
10:20 Congregational Hymn and Offering  
Special Music — Ron and Pat Owens  
10:35 Message — Sam Cathey, Hot Springs, AR  
11:00 Solo — Kitty Henry, student, Samford University, Birmingham, AL  
Special Music — Adult Choir, North Phoenix Baptist Church, Phoenix, AZ  
11:15 Message — Richard Jackson, North Phoenix Baptist Church, Phoenix, AZ  
Benediction — Don Kim, Los Angeles, CA

### Monday Afternoon, June 8

Theme: "We Would See Jesus in Our Church"

- Stanley Coffey, First Baptist Church, Albuquerque, NM, presiding  
1:15 "Let's Just Praise the Lord" — with Jack Price, music evangelist, Garland, TX  
1:30 Invocation  
Congregational Hymn — Ragan M. Vandegriff III  
1:35 Solo — Jennifer Till, Dallas, TX  
1:40 Testimonies — Our Seminary Presidents  
2:10 Message — Fred Wolfe, Cottage Hill Baptist Church, Mobile, AL  
2:35 Congregational Singing  
2:40 Testimony: "The Revival That Wouldn't Stop!" — Elvis Marcum, Grace-land Baptist Church, New Albany, IN  
2:55 Message — Vance Hanner, Greensboro, NC  
3:20 Congregational Hymn and Offering  
Solo — Pat Vandegriff, First Baptist Church, Orlando, FL  
3:30 Election of Officers  
3:45 Solo — Beverly Terrell, Dallas, TX  
3:50 Message — W.A. Criswell, First Baptist Church, Dallas, TX  
Benediction — Don Bouldin, Carmel Baptist Church, Charlotte, NC

### Monday Evening, June 8

Theme: "We Would See Jesus in Our World"

Jim Henry presiding

- 6:30 "Let's Just Praise the Lord" — North Phoenix Baptist Church Adult Choir, Phoenix, AZ  
6:45 Invocation  
Congregational Hymn — Ragan M. Vandegriff III  
6:50 Solo — Earnest Alexander, Wichita, KS  
6:55 Message — Harold O'Chester, Allendale Baptist Church, Austin, TX  
7:20 Congregational Singing  
7:25 Testimony — Don Miller, Fort Worth, TX  
7:35 Mission Emphasis — Foreign Mission Board  
7:55 Congregational Hymn and Offering  
Special Music — North Phoenix Baptist Church Adult Choir  
8:10 Message — John Bisagno, First Baptist Church, Houston, TX  
8:35 Congregational Hymn  
Solo — John Shillington, Shawnee, OK  
8:40 Message — Arthur Blessitt, West Hollywood, CA  
9:05 Introduction of New Pastors' Conference Officers  
Welcome to Southern Baptist Pastors' Conference  
Benediction

### Pastors' Conference Officers:

President: Jim Henry, First Baptist Church, Orlando, FL  
Vice President: Stanley Coffey, First Baptist Church, Albuquerque, NM  
Secretary-Treasurer: Kenneth Wayne Fields, First Baptist Church, Grand Bay, AL  
Music Coordinator: Ragan M. Vandegriff III, First Baptist Church, Orlando, FL

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Bill Wade of Bay Vista Baptist Church, leads the BSU choir in "Celebrate" during the dedication service at "Perk."

### BSU dedication at "Perk"



Dedication for the new Baptist student center at the Perkinston campus of Gulf Coast Junior College was held March 26. Featured speaker was Ralph Winders, retired director of Baptist student work for the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board. Other speakers included Regenia Lee, BSU president, Bennie Warren, BSU faculty adviser, and David Lee, pastor of Commission Road Baptist Church, Long Beach. Chairman of the area committee is Jim Barfield and building committee chairman is Elwyn Wilkinson. The 2,800 square foot facility adjacent to the campus includes an assembly room, office, kitchen, work room, and stone fireplace. The Perkinston campus has 632 dormitory students. Tim Thomas is BSU director.

## McCall to oppose Smith for president

(Continued from page 1)

He declined to comment directly on Smith's leadership, but said: "I agree with those who are not satisfied with his leadership."

McCall reiterated he did not seek the nomination, and in fact had hoped to have a lessening of responsibilities when he leaves the presidency of Baylor in June to become chancellor.

McCall, 65, was nominated for the presidency of the convention in the 1979 Houston convention, but was defeated by Adrian Rogers, pastor of Bellevue Baptist Church in Memphis. McCall subsequently was nominated as first vice president and won in a runoff election.

McCall was reared in the Fort Worth Masonic Home and Orphanage, where he, his brothers and sister were placed after the death of their father in 1918. He graduated from Masonic High School and received a small scholarship to Baylor, where he earned a law degree in 1938 and a bachelor of arts degree in 1942.

He taught at Baylor from 1938 to 1942, when he joined the Federal Bureau of Investigation. He returned in 1946 and remained until 1956, when he became an associate justice of the Supreme Court of Texas. He returned in 1959 as executive vice president and was elected president in 1961.

In reaction to the announcement, Smith said: "I do not know Dr. McCall very well personally, but I know he is a fine person. He certainly has every right to have his name put in nomination. My prayer is that God's will shall be done in every aspect of our convention."

Pressler said: "I had hoped the convention in Los Angeles would be a healing and harmonious one. I deeply regret any action that will spoil this spirit of harmony."

Jimmy Draper, pastor of First Baptist Church of Euless, Texas, and former president of the SBC Pastors' Conference, said: "I have the highest respect for Dr. McCall. I have worked with him for the past seven years as a member of the Baylor trustees. I love him, but I am really disappointed he would allow his name to be presented against Bailey Smith. Bailey has done a very good job in a very difficult situation. He has done an admirable job and I think he ought to be reelected."

Cecil Sherman, pastor of First Baptist Church of Asheville, N.C., and a leader of a moderate wing of the convention, said he is "very pleased Dr. McCall is offering the convention an option." He emphasized the group of which he is a leader "does not have a candidate," and said he plans to support anyone who runs against Bailey Smith.

Kenneth Chafin, pastor of Main Baptist Church of Houston and another moderate leader, welcomes McCall's candidacy, and said he intends to vote for him.

"This election is not a personality contest. For the past few years we have elected glamour boys from the evangelism circuit and have discovered they don't know much about the denomination and don't care very much," Chafin said.

"We are not voting on smiles, platform antics or even activity in the baptistry. We are voting on what kind of Baptists we want to be. The choice is whether we intend to be Southern Baptists carrying out a program of world missions through the institutions we have set up, or whether we are going to be Frank Norris fundamentalists with a narrow, angry creedal base."

"I believe we do not want to be a bunch of fundamentalists who turn aside from the world missions task to fight over a theory of inspiration," Chafin added.

## Smith announces resolutions body

(Continued from page 1)

nominated to the Sunday School Board, was omitted. He lives in Jackson and is a Certified Public Accountant.

Barber and Garrett are replacements for two persons named by Smith who are not eligible for the committee. The two persons originally named, Paul Lewis, pastor of First Baptist Church, Carson City, Nev., and Bill Smith, pastor of Wailae Baptist Church, Honolulu, Hawaii, are from conventions which are not qualified for representation on the "Executive Committee, boards, commissions, standing committees and special committees" of which the Resolutions Committee is one.

The constitution specifies state conventions must have at least 25,000 members to qualify. Neither the Hawaii Baptist Convention nor the Nevada Baptist Convention meet those requirements.

Note: Since this story was set in type, two more changes have been made in the resolutions committee.

Mrs. Jack Taylor and Carl Garrett have both declined the appointments to serve on the committee. Replacing Mrs. Taylor is Jayne (Mrs. John) Dunaway, wife of the pastor of First Baptist Church, Corbin, Ky. Mrs. Dunaway is a member of the SBC Executive Committee. Replacing Garrett is Vivian (Mrs. Henry) Simpson of Lillington, N.C., wife of an associational director of missions.

### Historical

(Continued from page 1)

explore all possibilities to expand its facilities. It is currently housed in the Baptist Sunday School Board building in Nashville.

The record budgets for 1981-82 and 1982-83 requested by the commission are \$353,390 and \$409,850, increases of 4.4 percent and 13.8 percent.

If you want a sure crop and a big yield, sow wild oats.

## Woman's Missionary Union

Annual Meeting  
June 7-8, 1981

Los Angeles Convention Center

Petree Room

Los Angeles, Calif

"Watch"

Music Director: Joe Enloe, Salt Lake City, Utah  
Pianist: Ron Cockrill, Franklin, Va.

### Sunday Afternoon, June 7, 5:00

Special Music: Children's Choir, Mandarin Baptist Church, Samuel Lin, director, Los Angeles, Calif.  
Bible Study: Francis M. DuBose, professor of missions, Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary, Mill Valley, Calif.  
Prayertime: Cherry Y. K. Chang, Asian worker, Language Missions Department, Southern Baptist General Convention of California, serving in Los Angeles

Los Angeles in Multi-Media: Introduced by Stanley O. White, director of missions, Los Angeles Southern Baptist Association  
Special Music: Youth Chorus, First Filipino Baptist Church, Leon Ison, minister of Music, Los Angeles, Calif.

Introduction of Acteens National Advisory Panel:

Pamela Link, Jefferson City, Mo.  
Michele Cherry, Washington, N.C.  
Janet Sheryl Harris, Cary, N.C.  
Rebecca Hughes, Green River, Wyo.  
Marsha Herrod, Eupora, Miss.  
Allison Leigh Griffin, Pensacola, Fla.

Missions Dialogue: "It is Happening Now in Women's Work," Judy Rice, executive director, Alaska Woman's Missionary Union, Anchorage, Alaska; Barbara Epperson, missionary, Ibadan, Nigeria  
Solo: Holly Jeanne Mercadante, San Bernardino, Calif.  
Message: "A New Day," Charles Bryan, vice president, office of overseas operations, Foreign Mission Board, Richmond, Va.  
Benediction: Beverly Goss, executive director, Arizona Woman's Missionary Union, Phoenix, Ariz.

### Monday Morning, June 8, 9:45

Special Music: Choir, New Mount Calvary Baptist Church, Lonnie Dawson, pastor, Los Angeles, Calif.

Bible Study: Francis M. DuBose

Prayertime: Augustine Salazar, director, Migrant Ministries, Southern Baptist General Convention of California, Fresno

Business: Election of Officers

Missions Feature: "Watch, It's Happening in California," Nineteenth Avenue Baptist Church, William H. Smith, pastor; Japanese Mission of Nineteenth Avenue Baptist Church, Nobuo Kuriyama, pastor; Mandarin Baptist Church, Henry Mu, pastor; Vietnamese Mission of Nineteenth Avenue Baptist Church, Nga Nguyen, pastor — San Francisco, Calif.

Solo: "Missionary Medley," Flota D. Jordan, Norwalk, Calif.

Message: "You Can See It Now in Indonesia," Catherine Walker, former missionary to Indonesia, serving now at the Foreign Mission Board, Richmond, Va.

Benediction: Dixie Hunke, executive director, California Woman's Missionary Union, Southern Baptist General Convention of California, Fresno

### Monday Afternoon, June 8, 2:00

Special Music: Choir, Berendo Street Baptist Church, Don M. Kim, pastor, Los Angeles, Calif.

Prayer: Sara Wisdom, executive director, Northwest Woman's Missionary Union, Northwest Baptist Convention, Portland, Oregon  
Report of WMU Executive Director: Carolyn Weatherford, Woman's Missionary Union, SBC, Birmingham, Ala.

Solo: Marva Simmons, Compton, Calif.

Symposium: "Watch, It's Happening in California," Lonnie Chavez, director, Language Missions Department, Southern Baptist General Convention of California, Fresno; Khalil (Charlie) Hanna, Arabic worker, Santa Anna, Calif.; Theo Patnaik, Internationals, Clovis, Calif.

Benediction: Betty Lynn Cadle, executive director, Maryland Woman's Missionary Union, Baltimore, Md.

### Monday Evening, June 8, 7:00

Prayer: Joy Fenner, executive director, Texas Woman's Missionary Union, Dallas

Message: "You Can See It Now in Peru," Steve and Shirley Grimes, missionaries, Lima, Peru

Testimony: "Watch, It's Happening in California," Petru Popovici, pastor, Bellflower Roman Baptist Church, Bellflower, Calif.

Message: "You Can See It Now in Tanzania," David and Betty Ann Whitson, missionaries, Bukoba, Tanzania

Gavel Presentation

Benediction

### Why organize to fight?

## "The system works"

(Continued from page 4)

ever, they cannot be frozen out of denominational positions if we are to continue to call ourselves Baptists.

Thus we question the position of Bill Sherman of Nashville and Cecil Sherman of North Carolina, who say they are seriously disappointed with the Smith-appointed committee on committees and the nominees of the committee on boards. Evidently, they are insisting that all such persons pass their own particular and individual scrutiny or they plan to offer alternate possibilities at the convention. Such action is completely within their rights as Baptists, of course.

It would seem, however, that insisting that all appointments and nominees fit a particular mold is just as bad for one side as for the other. There is nothing to say that either group does not have complete freedom to act as it is doing. It is likely, how-

ever, that the system would function more smoothly if both groups would understand that in a denomination as large and as diverse as Southern Baptists there are going to be those in responsible positions with whom they do not agree on some issues.

The actions described that surround the report of the committee on committee members and the nominations of the committee on boards represent efforts of people on completely different sides of the denominational spectrum. Both groups probably would say the other does not represent the mass of Southern Baptists. The greater possibility is that neither does.

James Richardson's philosophy is to let the system work as it is supposed to. Over the long haul, he feels, it will do just that. If he is right, everything will would be all right. If he is wrong, we would have problems any way we turn. We believe he is right.

## Golden Gate Seminary invites messengers to visit campus

Southern Baptists attending the Southern Baptist Convention in Los Angeles, June 9-11, 1981, and the other meetings associated with the Convention, have been invited to visit Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary, Mill Valley, Calif., by William M. Pinson Jr., president.

The seminary is located five miles north of San Francisco and the Golden Gate Bridge, is the only agency of the Southern Baptist Convention on the West Coast. The campus at Mill Valley occupies the site that had been selected for the United Nations Building, had it been built in San Francisco where the United Nations was chartered. The 148-acre campus sits astride Strawberry Point which juts into San Francisco Bay.

A library building is nearing completion. Branches of the seminary are located in Garden Grove, Calif.; Portland, Ore.; and Salt Lake City, Utah. The seminary was founded in 1944 and became an SBC agency in 1950.



## Midwestern receives travel, speaker gifts

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (BP) — Three gifts amounting to \$115,000 to endow scholarships, student aid and a special leadership series were announced at the annual meeting of the Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary trustees.

Midwestern trustee Robert Keadley of St. Joseph, Mo., and his wife, Wanda, made two gifts. One, for \$50,000, will endow the Midwestern Leadership Series, a program designed to bring outstanding lay persons to the campus for lectureships, workshops and achievement recognition awards. The other, \$40,000, will make \$4,000 available annually for a Midwestern student and spouse to travel to the Holy Land upon graduation.

A \$25,000 gift, by Mr. and Mrs. Charles Harris of Kansas City, will be used to fund two annual \$1,000 student aid scholarships.

Trustees also adopted Midwestern's largest budget to date: \$2,421,296, an 8.85 percent increase. The budget provides for salary merit increases up to a maximum of nine percent.

In other action, the trustees approved an acting academic dean, a senior professor of Christian ethics, a visiting professor of church music, and an assistant to the president.

Larry Baker, associate professor of Christian ethics at Midwestern, will be acting dean from January through June 1982, during the study leave of academic dean John Howell.

Midwestern's Vice President Emeritus, C. W. Scudder, was confirmed as senior professor in Christian ethics. Scudder, who retired Feb. 1, 1981, will assume teaching responsibilities in the spring of 1982 when Baker is acting dean.

Clinton Nichols, associate professor of church music and voice at New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary, will be visiting professor in church music in 1981-82, during his sabbatical leave from New Orleans.

Robert L. Desbien, director of public relations, was approved as assistant to the president. In this role, he will assume responsibilities in the area of institutional development in addition to his current duties.

## Brotherhood trustees plan training center

MEMPHIS, Tenn. (BP) — Trustees of the Southern Baptist Brotherhood Commission adopted a 1981-82 budget of \$2,837,822, gave the green light for construction of a training center, and asked for additional study on the formation of a national fellowship of Baptist men at their three-day meeting in Memphis.

A committee of commissioners, commission staff, state brotherhood leaders and lay supporters of the national fellowship proposal will bring a study report at a meeting Oct. 22. The fellowship was proposed in November 1980 by 101 laymen and pastors meeting in Memphis to find ways to utilize their skills in mission efforts of the denomination.

Trustees requested more study on the national men's fellowship after lengthy discussion about the relationship of the group to the commission's existing Baptist men's program.

The commission's 1981-82 budget, a 15 percent increase, calls for \$266,703 for Baptist men's programs, and \$258,173 for Royal Ambassadors, the commission's missions education program for boys in grades 1-12.

Another \$1,605,189 is for such program support areas as communications, \$360,390, and business, \$1,244,879. Budget for administration including associational Brotherhood work and church Brotherhood administration is \$800,421.

The action on the training center revives a project begun four years ago. Plans call for converting space at the commission building into a \$160,000 conference center for Brotherhood and other Southern Baptist groups.

The facility will include a large conference room, several conference rooms, audiovisual support equipment and kitchen facilities.

## Creative worship meets set in May

Area creative worship conferences are set in mid-May in five Mississippi cities, including Mendenhall, Senatobia, Yazoo City, Philadelphia, and Greenwood.

Each conference is for persons who are involved in planning worship services and each begins at 9 a.m., concluding at 4 that afternoon.

Sessions include information on music, the ordinances, special occasions, children and youth, prayer services, and the worship team.

Following are dates and places: May 18, Simpson County Associational Building, Mendenhall; May 19, Highland Baptist Church, Senatobia; May 20, Central Baptist Church, Yazoo City; May 21, First Baptist Church, Philadelphia; and May 22, North Greenwood Baptist Church, Greenwood.

Note that the May 20 meeting will be at Central Baptist Church, rather than Southside Baptist Church as previously publicized.

## Northwest Lottie tally

A computer error caused Lottie Moon gift figures from the churches in the newly formed Northwest Baptist Association to be incorrect in the recent listing in the Baptist Record. The following figures should straighten out the tally.

Northwest	
Arkabutla	\$ 906.15
Bethel	400.00
Bett	187.00
Carriage Hills	6,163.26
Cedar View	225.14
Church Road	1,701.52
Colonial Hills	2,650.02
Days	258.00
DeSoto Woods	187.60
Ebenezer DeSoto	4,000.00
Ebenezer Tate	356.52
Evansville	507.43
Fairhaven	273.00
FBC Coldwater	2,881.00
FBC Eudora	3,472.65
FBC Horn Lake	6,520.51
FBC Nesbit	1,561.18
FBC Olive Branch	3,520.55
FBC Senatobia	3,047.33
FBC Southaven	1,865.30
Flag Lake	458.86
Grays Creek	702.01
Green Brook	125.00
Hernando	2,326.59
Hickory Grove	976.63
Highland	1,700.00
Immanuel	679.35
Longview Hgts	2,026.44
Loxahama	1,149.55
Macedonia	150.00
Meadow Brook	1,031.95
Mineral Wells	590.70
Mt. Manna	200.00
Mt. Zion DeSoto	482.25
Mt. Zion Tate	6,801.13
New Garden	150.00
New Hope	200.00
New Prospect	684.16
Oak Grove	1,000.00
Parkway	105.00
Pleasant Hill	619.98
Sarah	241.80
Strayhorn	1,078.65
Trinity	80.00
Twin Lakes	625.51
Tyro	246.31
Wyatt	304.54
	\$65,230.57

## Cothen to speak at Richton's 75th

Grady Cothen, president of the Baptist Sunday School Board, will be the featured speaker May 10 at the 75th anniversary celebration of Richton's First Baptist Church.

Cothen's father, J. H. Cothen, was pastor of the Richton church on two occasions.

The anniversary celebration will include a week of preaching May 3-10 at 7 each evening.

Included in the week's activities are former pastors, Fred Trexler of Northview Baptist Church in Memphis, Tenn., Marcus Finch of Oakland Heights Baptist Church in Meridian, David Merritt of Carriage Hills Baptist Church of Southaven, and James Terpo of Canaan Baptist Church in Bessemer, Ala.

Former members and visitors are welcome for the services throughout the week.

## Literacy workshop set at Samford

ATLANTA — Equipping individuals as literacy missions associates will be the main focus of the annual Literacy Missions Leadership Workshop set for June 22-30 at Samford University in Birmingham, Ala.

Workshop concentration will be either conversational English or adult reading and writing/tutoring. Along with teaching techniques in the two concentrations, background emphases will include sessions on the helping ministry, the English sound system, interfaith witnessing and literacy work as missions action.

A minimum of 45 class hours make up the workshop. Two hours of graduate or undergraduate college credit is available.

The workshop is sponsored by the Home Mission Board and Samford University. For more information contact Mildred Blankenship at 100 Spring St., NW, Atlanta, Ga., 30367, or phone her at 404-873-4041.



## First, Soso, opens new library

First Church, Soso's fellowship hall was setting for the grand opening of the church's new library. Smith Sparks, chairman of the media center at First Church, Clinton, was guest speaker. Jim Beck, Soso pastor, offered the dedicatory prayer. The reading motif was carried out in the decorations: a cake in the shape of a book and miniature chocolate books were the handiwork of Linda Mauldin and Connie Powell. A book fair was arranged by Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Myrick, owners of the Baptist Bible and Book Store. Scores of books were given to the library as memorials to different persons. Library Committee members of First, Soso, are pictured, left to right: Tresie Wade, Connie Powell, Olpheia Ingram, and Kathleen Mauldin.

## FBC, Columbus will stay, build at home

By Tim Nicholas

First Baptist Church, Columbus, has "hired" a dedicated bunch of experienced church builders to construct its new educational building.

Those builders are the members of First Baptist Church, Columbus.

The idea came about as a result of the church's involvement in building projects in other states.

For the past two summers, members have traveled to mission points to help build buildings. For instance, in the summer of 1979, 75 people took two weeks in New Jersey on a building project. Said Pastor Joe McKeever, "They came back so impressed with the spiritual boost this gave them and the church," that they were willing to accept the at-home project when it was presented to them.

That 1979 summer, the church renovated its sanctuary, but interest rates were so high, they held off on building the educational building.

With rates still soaring last fall, several laypersons and staffers suggested they build it themselves. So, last December, the church voted to begin the project. The hook was that they would build the second and third week of July 1981, if by March 1 they had \$250,000 cash in hand for materials.

McKeever said that by the end of that day in March, they had \$258,000 with a promise of another \$5,000 if they came up short. Money came via stocks, gold, jewelry, and about \$10,000 in post-dated checks.

The gun behind it all, according to McKeever, is Minister of Youth Bryan Harris. He will be supervising the labor, having organized the project from the beginning. He will also supervise the tangential ministries associated with the project which is being called "Miracle of Columbus."

The other projects include holding

between 25-50 Backyard Bible Clubs, seeking to enroll 1,000 children from all over Columbus. Also there will be door-to-door witnessing and survey all over the area.

Then, two weeks after the project, there will be a starlite crusade, Aug. 29, in the church sanctuary, bringing in special guests for preaching and music.

The church is contracting for the foundation, steel and brick work, but members are being scheduled into three shifts a day, putting people on the job 24 hours a day.

The new building will be a three-story, brick edifice of 10,000 square feet. The first floor will be a music suite, the second and third will be educational space.

## National conference on Association will be held Sept. 16-19

A National Conference for the Baptist Association will be held Sept. 16-19 at Ridgecrest Baptist Conference Center, Ridgecrest, N.C.

Associational leaders will be equipped in the interpretation of census data as related to Bold Mission Thrust with an understanding of how to effect meaningful local action to fulfill their mission mandate. (The 1982-85 SBC emphasis will be "Reaching People, Developing Believers, and Strengthening Families.")

The conference is for two basic groups of participants: (1) associational directors of missions and the associational staff, and (2) state convention personnel, Southern Baptist Convention agency personnel, and consultants most related to associations and directors of missions in connection with Bold Mission Thrust.

The cost of the conference will be \$25 registration and materials fee, plus about \$60 for lodging (based on double occupancy).

## Smith celebrates passover seder

DALLAS (BP) — Southern Baptist Convention President Bailey E. Smith and his family celebrated the Passover seder in traditional Jewish fashion at the home of the Southwest representative of the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith.

After two widely publicized remarks by Smith concerning Jews, the Del City, Okla., pastor met with ADL representatives in New York City to work out better relationships between Southern Baptists and Jews.



## Baptist secretaries elect officers

Pictured are two of the officers elected to the Mississippi Baptist Secretaries' Association last week in Jackson. They attended a secretaries' conference at the Baptist Building. At left is Linda Jenkins, secretary at First Baptist Church, Yazoo City. She was elected first vice president. Mary Ray, right, secretary for the Rankin County Association, was elected president. Other officers are Virginia Fulton, secretary for First Church, Grenada, second vice president; and Jayne Woods, secretary at Woodland Hills Church, Jackson, secretary-treasurer.

## Mississippi Baptist Activities

May 10	Baptist Children's Village Mother's Day Offering
May 12	Associational Planning Workshop; Alta Woods BC, Jackson; 9:30 a.m. - 3 p.m. (PD)
May 14-16	Planning for Retirement Seminar; Baptist Building, Jackson; 2 p.m., 14th Noon, 16th (CT)
May 16	Mentally Retarded, Their Parents, and Workers; Camp Garaywa, Clinton; 6 p.m., 15th Noon, 16th (CT)
May 18	Area BYW Retreat; FBC, Columbia; 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. (WMU)

## Lowery, Hart are leaders for church rec week

Grady Lowery and Frank Hart Smith are among leaders of the recreation portion of a Gulfshore conference this summer that has combined two programs into one conference.

Lowery and Smith will speak July 6-8 at Gulfshore Baptist Assembly, Pass Christian, to church recreation workers. The other conference meeting at the same time will be the pastor-church staff conference.

Lowery is director of recreation and the Aerobics Center and adjunct teacher of church recreation at Southwestern Seminary, Ft. Worth, Tex.

Smith is consultant in the church recreation department of the Sunday School Board, Nashville, Tenn. He is a Greenwood, Miss., native and a graduate of Mississippi College.

The two conferences combined, aim at an audience of pastors, ministers of education, ministers of youth, church recreation workers and committee members, wives of staffers, church



Smith

Lowery

and associational secretaries, and kindergarten and day care workers.

For more information on the pastor-church staff program, write Leon Emery. For more on the recreation conference, write Robin Nichols. Both may be reached at Box 530, Jackson, Miss., 39205.

For reservations, write Gulfshore Baptist Assembly, Henderson Point, Pass Christian, Miss., 39571. Reservations need to include a \$15 deposit per person.



## GAS pose with Bernard

Girls in Action members from Shubuta Church pose with Diana Chiles and her puppet, Bernard. These girls, along with 250 other GAS and their mothers took part in a weekend of mission emphasis sponsored by Mississippi Woman's Missionary Union at Camp Garaywa April 24 and 25. Miss Chiles is puppet therapist at Mississippi Baptist Medical Center, Jackson. Waudine Storey, consultant, WMU, directed the Mother-Daughter Weekend.

## Tommy Lane will lead music for senior adults

Tommy Lane, who has served as minister of music at Bellevue Baptist Church, Memphis, Tenn., for 31 years, will be heading the music team for Senior Adult Retreat III, August 17-21, at Gulfshore Baptist Assembly.

Serving with Lane will be two other members of the music program of Bellevue. These are the church pianist, Mrs. Walter Lafferty, and their featured soprano soloist and music secretary, Mrs. Joe Hamilton, Jr.

Church Music Department and Jimmy Cutrell, of First Baptist Church, Gulfport, will serve as music team leaders for the retreats scheduled May 18-22 and May 25-29.

Frank Simmons, Gulfshore manager, has said that with 177 pre-registered for the first retreat it is now filled due to a large number of couples attending. With 184 pre-registered for May 25-29, however, there is still space for 20 more persons.

Other musicians enlisted for the two retreats in May are Mrs. Irene Martin

of Harpersville, a music evangelist and keyboard specialist; Dot Pray, Keyboard Consultant of the Mississippi Church Music Department; Mrs. Bobbie Smith, organist of Alta Woods Church, Jackson; and Myrna Loy Hedgepeth, music evangelist of Jackson.

## Bill Baker is Clarke speaker for commencement

Bill R. Baker will be commencement speaker at the 1981 graduation exercises of Clarke College, according to President A. C. Johnson.

Commencement exercises are scheduled for May 7 at 3:00 p.m. at the First Baptist Church, Newton.

Baker is a native of Pontotoc and is a graduate of Mississippi State University. He earned the master of arts degree from the University of Mississippi and a Ph.D. from Mississippi State University. He also holds an advanced degree from the New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary. He has served churches in Columbia, Gulfport, Mantee, and Calhoun City. He became pastor of the First Baptist Church, Newton, in 1973.

He has served Southern Baptists as a trustee to the Mississippi Baptist Foundation and Clarke College. And he has also served on the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, the Executive Committee and the Education Commission.

Baker is the author of *Catch the Vision: The Life of Henry L. Whitfield*. The public is invited to attend.

## Mississippian inaugurated at ABTS

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (BP) — Admitting at his inauguration that the school is at a "critical stage," Odell McGlothlin, a native of Vaiden, Miss., became the eighth president of American Baptist Theological Seminary, a ministerial training school jointly supported by Southern Baptists and the National Baptist Convention, USA, Inc.

McGlothlin cited the school's overcrowded dormitories and classroom facilities and chronic lack of funds as problems facing the seminary.

McGlothlin nevertheless predicted the predominantly black school "will ride out the storms of history and stand as a monument to cooperation of black and white Baptists."

He is a veteran educator and denominational executive. An ordained minister, McGlothlin was most recently director of publications of the Sunday School Publishing Board of the National Baptist Convention, USA, Inc.

Penang, Malaysia — The Baptist Theological Seminary in Penang, Malaysia, surpassed its goals for local support in 1980 by more than one percent. The seminary had set a target of 18 percent of the campus operating budget to come from Baptists in Malaysia and Singapore. Actual receipts were 20 percent, according to the seminary's annual report.

## Gulf Gardens opens shop

In looking for a ministry to bring Gulf Gardens Baptist Church, Gulfport, to a place of renewed love and concern, the pastor, James Whittington, was led into ministering through a Thrift Shop.

Some months ago, Gulf Gardens purchased a house next door to the church. The house is now being used for the purpose of ministering to the surrounding community through the selling of clothes, furniture, and household items.

The members of Gulf Gardens have taken an active interest in this outreach and are already seeing the results — March 27 and 28 Grand Opening days brought great response from the community.

Anyone wishing to contribute clothing, household items or any other human need may send them to the church. The address is: Gulf Gardens Baptist Church, 38th Ave. at 15th Street, Gulfport, Miss. 39501. 864-2210.



# The Baptist Record

OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST CONVENTION

## Editorials

### Witnesses unto Him?...

## We must do it together

The Baptist Record seldom reports on speeches, almost never if they are not covered by one of our staff members. There are several reasons for this. We feel there is little interest in speeches other than by those who attend. Also, we see an obvious danger of misinterpretation of material taken out of context. Our primary reason for not covering speeches, however, is that they represent the views of only one person. If a speech turns out to be controversial, we see no reason for only one person being able to propound a controversial view which may be his alone but may fuel a fire which might have gone out otherwise or start a fire when there was none and didn't need to be one.

There are times, however, when the speech is the story. Such is the case with the annual Christian Life Commission seminar. This is a meeting of speeches. Recently the 1981 seminar was held in Dallas, and the Baptist Record carried a wrap-up story on the seminar in the issue of April 9.

The brief account in the wrap-up of the speech by Robert Bratcher, one of the translators for Good News for Modern Man, was deleted by the Baptist Record. We felt the account portrayed inflammatory remarks which needed at least Bratcher's own interpretation.

Now Bratcher's statements have become a Southern Baptist issue, and we feel that Mississippi Baptists are due the knowledge of what is going on.

Bratcher's remarks were handled in two paragraphs of the Baptist Press news release that was the wrap-up account of the seminar. They follow:

"Bratcher, a former Southern Baptist pastor and foreign missionary, criticized biblical inerrancy. 'Only willful ignorance or intellectual dishonesty can account for the claim that the Bible is inerrant and infallible. To qualify this absurd claim by adding 'with respect to the autographs (orig-

inal manuscripts),' is a bit of sophistry, a specious attempt to justify a patent error."

"No truth-loving, God-respecting, Christ-honoring believer should be guilty of such heresy. To invest the Bible with the qualities of inerrancy and infallibility is to idolize it, to transform it into a false god."

In a portion not carried in the original Baptist Press release, Bratcher said, "...the Word of God is not words; it is a human being, a human life..." He added, "...words attempt to describe what is finally beyond their power to describe, an intense personal experience. But words remain signs and pointers and the reality they point at is not ever to be identified with the words themselves."

Obviously, Bratcher was saying that Jesus is the Word of God. His discussion of the Scripture, however, left many people dismayed.

In the wake of the storm that has followed, Bratcher has issued an apology. A statement also has been released by Foy Valentine, executive director of the SBC Christian Life Commission. The entire Baptist Press release in which the apology and the statement were presented is printed below.

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (BP)—Noted Bible translator Robert G. Bratcher said he was speaking only for himself when he made remarks on biblical inerrancy during a seminar of the Southern Baptist Christian Life Commission in Dallas.

Bratcher, one of the main translators of Good News for Modern Man, apologized for the tone of his remarks, and emphasized he was not speaking for the American Bible Society, by whom he is employed, or for the Christian Life Commission, which invited him to speak at the annual workshop.

"I was speaking as an individual and neither said nor implied that my views represented the position of either the

American Bible Society or the Southern Baptist Christian Life Commission," said Bratcher, a resident of Chapel Hill, N.C.

At the meeting, Bratcher criticized belief in biblical inerrancy, saying that to give the Bible those qualities is to idolize it.

Concerning his remarks Bratcher said: "I used language that was in-temperate and that seemed to cast aspersions on those who do not agree with my position. I deeply regret the language I used and I apologize to those who were offended by it."

The former Southern Baptist missionary to Brazil went on to affirm his belief in the Bible. "To study the Scriptures, to proclaim their message, and to put them into practice is not only a duty but it is one of the greatest privileges that any believer has," Bratcher said. "It is because of this that I have given my time and effort to making the message of the Bible more widely known and better understood."

More than 55 million copies of the Good News for Modern Man translation of the New Testament have now been published by the American Bible Society.

"My purpose," Bratcher said, "was not to disparage the Bible nor to create controversy. I believe the Bible to be both true and indispensable."

Responding to these developments, Foy Valentine, executive director of the Christian Life Commission, said, "Because of his special knowledge of the Bible and unique experience with the American Bible Society, I asked Dr. Bratcher to speak with regard to the Bible and the prophetic tradition with its powerful emphasis on 'Thus saith the Lord.' The choice of his specific topic and the decision to include the remarks in question were his; however, and not mine," Valentine said.

"I had no prior knowledge of what he

intended to say. I thought the moment I heard his two or three sentences about inerrancy that this inevitably would focus attention on the current controversy instead of on the main thrust of his sermon which was a call for Christians always to live and work in the light of the First Commandment, 'Thou shalt have no other gods before me.'"

"While the 422 registrants at the meeting paid registration fees that covered the expenses of the 14 speakers," Valentine said, "still, the meeting was under our sponsorship; and we are deeply concerned that Southern Baptists understand that it was planned to help God's people, as we are admonished in James 1:22, to be 'doers of the word, and not hearers only.'"

(end of release)

Here is an instance of a man speaking when he shouldn't have, departing from the subject matter assigned to him, and fueling a fire that most Southern Baptists wish would go out. He made a mistake, and he has apologized. We felt originally that his statements were not necessary, and we took them out. But we feel his apology should be accepted. Others in the excitement of a spoken message have made mistakes, including SBC President Bailey Smith. He apologized also, and his apology was accepted.

Perhaps Smith is the one to whom the Bratcher apology should be directed. Smith has indicated his desire of being a healing influence in the Southern Baptist Convention. Emotions may have been roused again that might have lain dormant under more favorable circumstances.

We call on everyone to put this episode behind us. This was just one man speaking. Let's move on to follow the admonitions that are to be found in the Scripture which we are examining so intensely, particularly as is to be found in Acts 1:8, "...and ye shall be witnesses unto me..."



## Pastor, staff appreciation... Fruitful ministries

Southern Baptists are known for their many emphases, and perhaps every Sunday easily could be some sort of a "day" in Southern Baptist life.

One that well could be the most important of all and one that each church must take upon itself to establish is "Pastor and Staff Appreciation Day." There is no such "day" on the denominational calendar. There is no one to declare that the church that fails to observe such a day is failing to be cooperative.

This is merely a suggestion, and it comes from the Department of Church-Minister Relations. Department Director Cliff Perkins believes, however, that any church that observes such a day on a regular basis will receive benefits far beyond what it would expect.

A simple folder that has been mailed to churches lists five benefits that each church could expect to gain from such an appreciation day. First there should be noted a tremendous uplift for the pastor and staff, insuring a better ministry on their part. Then there should be an enhancing of the self-esteem of the congregation. A third benefit would be a positive message to those outside the church who know nothing of the love of God. Another is a longer and happier staff tenure, thereby strengthening the church. The fifth is the smile of God on a happy, helpful relationship.

The folder points out that while it is a fact that respect for the minister has

been declining in recent years in some areas, the Bible teaches that God's servants are to be honored.

The pamphlet states:

"Ministers need the love, loyalty, and leadership that lay people can give to help them carry out their God-given tasks. The church will pay a high price if this is not done. The reputation of the pastor and staff and that of the church are inseparably linked together. Churches that love their ministers and find ways of expressing that love have longer staff tenure, fewer problems, and develop stronger church members."

Every staff member must realize that being on the staff of any church is not a bed of roses, and he must expect a lot of hard work in what ever area he chooses to project his ministry. The church, on the other hand, must realize that no staff member is perfect, and he is going to make mistakes. Some will make fewer than the average, some will make more than the average, and some will be "on the nose." But all will be in error from time to time. There is also the condition to be faced that some church members will consider some actions mistakes that were not mistakes at all.

Given a recognition of these conditions of reality, churches and staffs should enjoy long and fruitful ministries together.

A good way to aid such a tenure of ministry is for the church to observe a Pastor and Staff Appreciation Day.

### Why organize to fight?

As the time draws near for the Southern Baptist Convention in Los Angeles, SBC observers are looking for evidences of what is going on in the political arena.

James Richardson, pastor of First Baptist Church, Leland, says the Southern Baptist system of checks and balances is working as it is supposed to work. Richardson, along with Sam Simmons, a layman of Florence, served on the committee on boards for this year's convention. The slate of nominees to be presented by this committee will be voted on in Los Angeles.

Both groups probably would say that the other does not represent the mass of Southern Baptists. The greater possibility is that neither does.

Angela Richardson, who is a former president of the Mississippi Baptist Convention, is no stranger to the machinery of Baptist conventions. He indicated that with a few exceptions he was well pleased with the results of work of the committee on boards.

Observers in Mississippi are in agreement that the nominees for this state represent good choices. Some interested parties across the nation had feared that this committee on boards, elected as a result of the nominations of a committee on committees appointed by then president Adrian Ro-

gers, would be called on to nominate a biased group of prospective board members for SBC institutions.

Richardson indicated that there was no pressure to present the names of people who would favor any particular theological position. He indicated that he and Simmons had done a great deal of their work before meeting with the full committee and that their selections were accepted without question. They had agreed between themselves as to how to proceed and had no outside interference.

"The system works," Richardson said.

Generally, Richardson indicated, he made the selections for denomination and church-related people; and Simmons developed the nominees for the lay slots on the boards. The make up of the boards according to church related and lay participation is determined by the SBC constitution.

The Mississippi nominees are these:

William W. Durr, a lay member of Morrison Heights Church, Clinton, for the Home Mission Board; William E. Hardy, Jr., minister of education for First Baptist Church, Columbus, for the Sunday School Board; Jerry S. Lee, a lay member of First Church, Jackson, for the Sunday School Board; James Hefflin, pastor of First Church, Greenville, for Southwestern Seminary; Robert Shirley, pastor of Parkway Church, Tupelo, for Southeastern Seminary; Roy Raddin, director of missions for Washington Association, for the American Seminary Commission; and Russell Bush Jr., a lay member of First Church, Columbia, for the denominational calendar committee.

Two Mississippians had served a term already and were eligible for re-election to another. Both were named for re-election. They are Kent Wyatt, president of Delta State University, for Southern Seminary, and Clark McMurray, pastor of First Church, Pascagoula, for the Executive Committee.

There are indications that some members of the committee on boards came to the committee meeting determined to place certain people on the list of nominees for institution boards. There is no indication that SBC President Bailey Smith influenced them in this direction. He should not be blamed for their actions unless there is proof that he was influential in them.

For instance, however, there is the saga of Fred Wolfe. He was pastor of First Baptist Church, Lubbock, Tex., and was named by Rogers to the 1980 committee on committees. He resigned that committee when he returned to his former church, Cottage Hills in Mobile, Ala. He was named to the 1981 committee on committees by Smith. So far so good — nothing particularly wrong with all of that.

The crunch comes from another angle. Wolfe was also named as a nominee for the Board of Trustees of the Sunday School Board to replace James A. Auchmuty, a Birmingham pastor who had served only one term and was eligible for another. The members of the committee on committees from Alabama sent all of their prospective nominees, including Auchmuty, a letter asking if they supported Resolution 16 on doctrinal integrity passed by the convention in St. Louis. That resolution exhorts the trustees of SBC institutions to "con-

tinue the employment of faculty members and professional staff who believe in the divine inspiration of the Bible, the infallibility of the original manuscripts, and that the Bible is truth without any error."

Auchmuty replied in the affirmative, but he was removed in favor of Wolfe anyway.

Resolution 16 was directed at trustees of institutions, not at committee members nominating those trustees. Resolutions have absolutely no power of enforcement; but even if they did, enforcement of Resolution 16 would not be up to the committee on boards. It would be up to the General Assembly.

Ninety-nine and nine hundredths percent of Southern Baptists believe in the divine inspiration of the Bible and that it is truth without any error. The same number of Southern Baptists fervently desire that those in their employment and those who are entrusted with the well being of their institutions believe the same way.

If they were to find that such was not the case, they doubtless would take steps to change the condition.

Then there are Robert Tenery and M. O. Owens of North Carolina. Tenery was nominated for the Sunday School Board and Owens for the Home Mission Board. Both have had connections with a Baptist Faith and Message Fellowship, which is an unofficial organization within the fellowship of the Southern Baptist Convention. Such organization within the organization is less than desirable because it can smack only of political manipulation. If these people have affiliation with the Southern Baptist Convention, how-

(Continued on page 2)

### Blood alcohol content law...

## Appreciation due Legislature

The blood alcohol content bill that has been hoped for for three years has been signed into law by Gov. William Winter. We must applaud the Legislature for doing so easily this year what had not been accomplished during the two previous years.

A news release last week gave details of the new law. There are several facets of the bill in addition to the lowering of the alcohol content of the blood for a person to be presumed to be drunk. Sen. Ed Ellington of Jackson, a Republican, is given credit in the release for guiding the bill through the Legislature this year. Our apprecia-

tion surely is due Sen. Ellington for his successful efforts.

Several Baptist legislators also were instrumental in the fact that such a bill was before the Legislature during the session just ended, and they also are due our appreciation. There is no way of knowing the full extent of Baptist effort that went into the realization of this long-desired legislation; but we do know the names of at least two men who were prominent in the effort. They are Rep. Dennis Dollar of Gulfport and Rep. Jerry Horton of Ecu. And our thanks are due to Rep. John Hampton Stennis, who became chairman of the

House Judiciary A Committee this year and gave the committee the opportunity of voting on the bill. It passed easily.

The bill is a sensible one. The Legislature is to be commended for its enforcement officials have expressed their appreciation for the bill and were represented at the signing ceremony.

Perhaps there haven't been too many drunks on the highways of Mississippi, but that's no reason not to have legislation directed toward penalizing those who are there. Mississippi will be a better and a safer state with this law in effect than it has been before.

## Letters to the Editor

### Prayer requests

Editor:  
We have a prayer request to share with you and your readers:

Tom Higginbotham will be passing through Mississippi this summer on a bicycling trip across America for missions. You may have already received this information but we wanted to mention to you ourselves. While Tom was here as a volunteer for nine months he directed the youth fellowship and Bible study for our English Language work in our home.

Thank you for sharing this.  
James and Zelma Foster  
(Missionaries)  
Postbox 1907, Paramaribo, Zuid Suriname, S.A.

### Bold Mission question

Editor:  
According to a recent A.P. release the Moral Majority, headed by Jerry Falwell, will ignore the personal lives of the Reagan administration officials and nominees as long as they are true believers in political issues the M.M. considers important. The M.M. never judges the Reagan nominees on their private lives, again according to A.P.

For example M.M. is making no judgment of Ronald or Nancy on their reintroduction of hard liquor into the White House.

"We are not interested in whether people are drinking, or not drinking, are teaching Sunday School, or not going to Church, we are interested in people who can run the country," said Cal Thomas, M.M. vice president of communications.

It will be recalled that during the recent election, pulling out all the stops for candidate Reagan, M.M. stated, "what we are doing is for the good of U.S.A., period."

M.M. seems to be promoting the U.S.A. as a modern day, Old Testament Israel, the chosen people of God. The Covenant God made with Abraham as recorded in the O.T. however provided, decreed, and promised that "in thee and thy seed shall all the Nations of the earth be blessed." In the faithfulness of time Jesus came.

At this particular time there was a UNIVERSAL empire (under the Roman) guaranteeing UNIVERSAL peace, UNIVERSAL law, UNIVERSAL contact through travel and commerce (good road system) UNIVERSAL language (Greek) UNIVERSAL hope (Jewish faith based on OT teachings).

Jesus constantly referred to Himself as "the Son of man."

The Great Commission as recorded in Mark (repeated in Matthew & Acts) says, "Go ye into all the world and preach the Gospel to the whole creation." Embodied in Matthew, Mark and Acts are (1) PROGRAM, (2) Power, (3) Presence.

Bold Mission??  
Marvin E. Taylor  
Hamilton, Miss.

### Need for apology

Editor:  
I'm writing in reference to a letter in the April 2 issue titled "Concern Over Liquor," and your response to that letter.

I also am concerned about the fact that alcoholic beverages have become common stock items in most grocery stores as well as other establishments which constantly bombard our senses with an attempt to hide the reality of the deadly effects of alcohol misuse.

However, as an employee of the Mississippi State Hospital who works in Marshall County and as one who works very closely with the medical staff of the Region 2 Mental Health Center, I find that part of the letter relating to "dope" contrary to my observations of the Center's attitudes and practice. Since you have also indicated your agreement I would be interested to what extent you checked the validity of that remark before printing and agreeing with it. I would like to humbly suggest that you print an apology to a dedicated group of mental health professionals who do not have such facts.

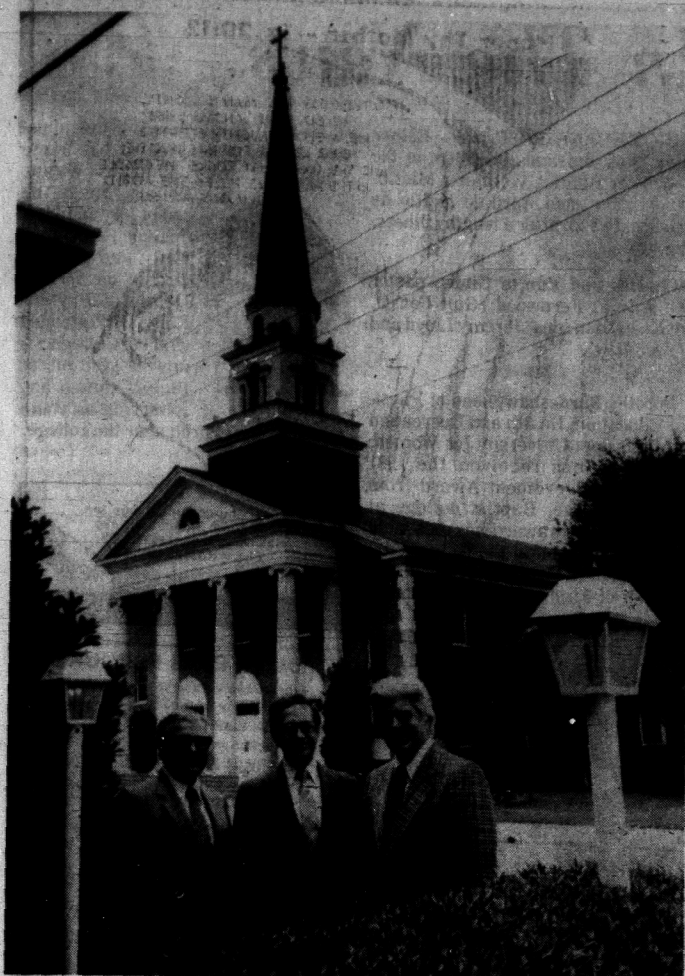
Timothy Scott  
Pastor, Salem Baptist Church  
Potts Camp

You are right. In my interest in agreeing with the part of the letter on liquor and beer sales I neglected to note the final paragraph of the letter regarding mental health centers. I have no knowledge of them. An apology is in order herewith extended.—  
Editor

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# First, Meridian, will celebrate triple anniversary on May 17



First Church, Meridian, on May 17 will celebrate the 20th anniversary of three on its staff — left to right: David McCubbin, associate pastor and minister of education; Beverly V. Tinnin, pastor; and John Laughlin, minister of music and minister of senior adults.

By Anne Washburn McWilliams  
"That's the first time I ever saw a pastor put his initials on the top of the church!" a Meridian man wisecracked. The lighted cross on the steeple of First Baptist Church, Meridian, can be seen at night as far away as the Interstate; bulbs in the top section had gone out, thus forming a T. Beverly Tinnin hasn't put his initials on the steeple yet, but he has been pastor of the Meridian church for 20 years, since May 1, 1961, longer than anyone else. To cap that, his associate pastor—minister of education, David McCubbin, and minister of music—minister of senior adults, John Laughlin, have also served that church for 20 years, both having gone there August 15, 1961.

First, Meridian will celebrate the triple anniversary on Sunday, May 17. L. Gordon Sansing will deliver a tribute during the morning service. Members of other churches in the area will be invited to a reception from 3 to 5 in the afternoon to honor the three.

**Why 20 Years?**  
Charles Armstrong, chairman of deacons and retired school principal, said, "These are fine Christian men, who are warm and considerate. Their staying so long in one place says something about the people's opinion of them, I think." He added, "They have grown as ministers and as individuals. I believe they would not have stayed in a place that did not offer them opportunities for such growth."

On the question of how they remained together for 20 years, Tinnin said, "Dave and John are skilled workers. They can do their jobs. And we are all friends."

Laughlin agreed, "I cannot remember any animosity ever between the three of us."

"Yet we are all different," McCubbin said.

"That's right," the pastor declared. "John is an extrovert. David is quiet, an introvert, and I'm sort of in-between, so this tends toward balance. If we go into something with enthusiasm, and John and I lose interest,

Dave will stick to it. He is a man who sees after details."

McCubbin interrupted, "The thing is, the grass never looked greener to us somewhere else. I came thinking I would stay three years, and then I didn't want to leave! We haven't concentrated on numbers, but on church fellowship, on church spirit."

"That's right," Laughlin emphasized. "This is a great church. You've heard that you know a Christian by the way he loves the brethren. Here we do love each other!"

Tinnin said, "The first thing I noticed when I came here as pastor was the people's receptiveness to the gospel as we preached it. For instance, twenty years ago racial changes were being effected, and we stood firmly behind the school system. Then during the Wet-Dry issue the church bought ads in the paper to support the Drys. The members have always supported me in my messages. They may have expressed differing opinions, but never have showed ill will. Those who disagreed with me on such issues just loved the church and did not want to see it torn apart, so no bitterness has remained."

**Achievements**  
According to the deacon chairman, First, Meridian, has held up well as a downtown church. People still come there from all sections of the city and from the naval base. He said that the members are good stewards and that last week the budget was at least \$30,000 ahead of schedule. Twenty years ago the church owned a third of a block and now owns a two-block area. Since 1961 an education annex has been built, the kindergarten has been enlarged, and a television ministry has been started.

A minister of activities and youth and ministries, Randy Scarborough, and a resident missionary, Georgia Mae Ogburn, (retired missionary to Chile), have been added to the staff.

Other long-term staff members include the pastor's secretary for ten

years, Mrs. Billie Renfrow, and education secretary for 21 years, Mrs. Mary Elizabeth Smith. The latter said, "These three congenial men know how to keep everything going smoothly."

**Tinnin**  
Beverly V. Tinnin, born at Shreveport, is the son of Finley Tinnin who was editor of *The Baptist Message*, Louisiana's state Baptist paper, for 38 years. He received the B.A. degree from Louisiana College and B.D. and Th.D. degrees from New Orleans Seminary.

During World War II, from 1942 to 1946, he was a naval aviator. He earned a Distinguished Flying Cross and Air Medal with Clusters in the South Pacific and retired with the rank of captain. His pastorates before moving to Meridian were in Louisiana and Texas. It was in Texas that he first met David McCubbin and liked the work he saw him doing in church and association.

Tinnin and his wife, the former Bobbie Ruth Pittman, have three daughters and three grandchildren. His list of denominational posts, past and present, is long: member of the Board of American Baptist Seminary, Nashville; chairman of Board, Clarke College; member of Executive Committee, Mississippi Baptist Convention; president, United Ministers of Lauderdale County; member, Annuity Board, SBC; chairman, Baptist Record Advisory Committee. In his community he is on the Board of the Chamber of Commerce and the Board of Anderson Hospital, and is chairman of the Board of Directors of the Meridian Public Library.

**McCubbin**  
David W. McCubbin was born in West Virginia, but his family moved soon afterward to New York and then to Hastings, Florida. He has degrees from University of Florida and Southwestern Seminary. While in seminary he was pastor at Hico, Texas. Then for 4½ years, before moving to Meridian, he was pastor at First Church, New London, Texas. He and his wife, the former Patsy Ann Woolverton, have

four daughters. McCubbin has served in various capacities in Baptist associations in Texas and Mississippi, and as a special worker for the program organizations of Mississippi Baptist Convention.

**Laughlin**  
"Big John, the Cajun." That's what lots of folks call John Laughlin, for that's the way he is billed for appearances as after-dinner entertainer for conventions, Civic Club Ladies' nights, Chamber of Commerce banquets, etc. (His wife says he's always onstage.)

Laughlin, like Tinnin, was born in Louisiana and was graduated from Louisiana College and New Orleans Baptist Academy. He served as minister of music in Louisiana and Texas before going to Meridian. In 1961, while visiting a friend in Meridian, he was invited to sing at First Baptist Church on a Sunday morning. The church liked what they heard so well that they called him as minister of music.

He and his wife, the former Jeannine Lackey, have two sons and two daughters.

**Meridian**  
First, Meridian, has been called "the safest place to have a heart attack." During a revival there last week (Peter McLeod, evangelist; J.M. Wood, musician) a woman had a heart attack. Within moments, a doctor (from a congregation of many doctors) was attending her and an ambulance had arrived from its parking place only a half block away. The woman is recovering.

The city of Meridian is a combination of old and new. Downtown stores and banks have planted trees and landscaped their property. First Baptist Church preserved some old fig trees in a small green park left within its parking area. The city has new malls and a new library. It also has Weidman's, a famous restaurant opened in 1870, and First Baptist Church, organized in 1839.

## Letters from Mama

October 15, 1946 — Dearest Anne: Here's a clipping of an article, "Prayers for a College Girl." You can read it and know these are my prayers for you. I love you, Mama.

May 21, 1953 — Dearest Anne: Will you let me talk to you a little while? I do wonder where you are by now, if you are safe and have somewhere to stay tonight. There have been so many times you have been to strange places. God always cares for you, and I know He will again. I know you will do all right in your new job if it is His will for you to do this work, and I feel like it is.

I don't know your address but will send this in care of the Baptist Record. I hope you didn't have any trouble finding Dr. Goodrich and that you can soon find a place to board where you can have a good bed and something good to eat. Good night and God bless you. Love, Mama.

July 15, 1955 — Dearest Anne: By this time you have seen London. We were so glad to get that letter from you today. I can't imagine it being so cold there since it's hot here! It makes me shudder to think about the icebergs. We saw a show one night where a ship ran into one of them and couldn't move. I hope you will come back by a warmer route. You're about to begin the Baptist World Alliance, I guess, I hope you will enjoy it.

All I do is fix bottles for our new Elizabeth, and wash her clothes. I think she looks a good bit like Betty when she was a baby. I hope Daddy can get some film and make her picture to send you. It will soon be milking time, so I'll have to go. I hope this letter will get to Hotel Bedford before you leave. I love you, Mama.

November 4, 1957 — Dearest Anne: I do wish I could have gotten by without the flu to weaken me down, so I could have already had this operation and not keep worrying about it. Last week I cleaned the house, washed and ironed, got my hair shampooed and trimmed, packed my suitcase, and went to the hospital. But I came back home, so now I will have all that to do over again. I know you wish I could make up my mind. Why do I have that fear? I am trying so hard to have faith because I know God can do all things and I must just leave it in His hands.

Just take a picture of your new house and send it so I can see it. Love, Mama.

March 20, 1959 — Dearest Anne: I wish you the happiest birthday ever Sunday. I do wish you could come home this weekend and let me cook you a birthday dinner! We are mailing you a box today. I'll go now and sew

and look at one of my stories on TV. I love you, Mama.

May 15, 1968 — Dearest Anne: First of all this morning I want to try to thank you for all you did and all you meant to me this Mother's Day. No mother has any nicer or sweeter daughters than I have. The candleholders are pretty. They came Monday and I had fun opening them. Daddy could hardly wait, either, until I got into them. I was really thrilled to get an orchid from Betty, avoid gifts to Betty. We are having a rainy spell and the strawberries are rotting. Daddy has picked over so many gallons of them and sold some. We have given all our neighbors berries. I wish you had some in your deep freeze.

One of the ear pieces fell off my glasses last night so I am trying to hold them on to write! Thanks again for everything you and W. D. did for Mother's Day happiness I will never forget. May God bless your home is my prayer. Love, Mama.

Jan. 27, 1970 — Dearest Anne: Here goes another again, but hasn't it been beautiful and just like spring for three days now?

I have been baking a cake this afternoon. I got tickled about it rising so much, as mine don't usually rise, so I found later that I had used self-rising flour instead of plain flour. I hope we can eat it!

Daddy has gone to bed. He was writing you tonight. He said his letter was too sentimental to send, he reckoned. I told him no it wasn't. We should be saying what is on our minds, how much we love each other, while we are living. We take these things for granted too much. Love always, Mama.

Feb. 16, 1981 — We will have a study course tomorrow at Annie Mae's. Mrs. Wayne Barrett, pastor's wife at Antioch, will teach it. I plan to have the WMU meet with me one afternoon during the Week of Prayer. Love you, Mama.

April 21, 1981 — Dearest Anne: Easter is always a meaningful time of the year. It was warm, but I did wear my white suit.

We need always to keep our chins up if possible and hope for the best! I love you, Mama.

May 7, 1981 — Dearest Mama: Thank you for always remembering to send your love and encouragement, no matter what the occasion. As you know, I love getting letters — especially from you. Happy Mother's Day! I love you, Anne.



Pope

Graham

## HMB appoints Sojourners

Nina Pope, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Reed Pope of Independence, and Melva Graham, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Max B. Graham of Independence, have been appointed as Sojourners by the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board.

Miss Pope will serve in Houston, Tex., and Miss Graham will serve in West Virginia for ten weeks each this summer.

Austin Moore, Jr., is pastor of Mt. Zion Baptist Church of Independence where both girls are members.

## Bible translators continue work in Peru

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (EP) — When Nancy Morse went to work in Colombia as a Bible translator, she signed an agreement that said no ransom would be paid if she were taken hostage. So did the other Wycliffe Bible translators, including one of Miss Morse's fellow workers, Chester Bitterman, who was killed March 7 in Bogota after being kidnapped by terrorists Jan. 19.

Miss Morse is a former Kansas City teacher. She joined Wycliffe in 1975 and has been working with the California-based organization's language institute in Colombia for more than three years. After the slaying of Bitterman, all 109 other Wycliffe linguists working in Colombia were offered the option of pulling out. But they all decided to stick with their task of putting unlettered languages into writing.

In a letter to her home church shortly after Bitterman was taken,

Miss Morse said the M-19 terrorists demanded that the Bible translators leave the country in a month and threatened to resort to violence.

"We all agreed that we cannot meet their demand for four reasons," she wrote: 1) "God has given us a job to do here and we have all committed our lives to it. We can't go home and leave the tribes without God's Word; 2) Other missions in Colombia and around the world would be subject to having their members and work threatened by similar subversive groups; 3) Wycliffe has a policy, which we all agreed to when we joined, not to pay ransom or submit to subversive groups; and 4) The Colombian government is supporting our stand and has expressed the desire that we don't leave the country."

Miss Morse indicated that she and the other workers felt a deep peace about Bitterman's situation. "We as a

group decided to let our brother Chester be a martyr if it came to that," she wrote. "God's strengthening is so evident in our midst. We are all carrying on with our tasks per usual, even overtime as we see we may not have much time to reach the tribespeople."

The terrorists claim that the institute is a front for the Central Intelligence Agency and that it is undermining the native cultures of Colombia for monetary and political gain. Wycliffe officials have emphatically denied these charges.

Waylen Bray has announced the first youth encampment at Maryland will be held in July. The facility at Maryland will be used for youth retreats and as a conference center to train church leadership.

There are 14 churches in Central Association and seven missions. The largest church has 156 resident members. Last year 275 baptisms were reported, and every church and mission reported baptisms. Using rented facilities in 1979, the association had 80 campers for Youth Week and 97 campers for Children's Week, and a total of 21 professions of faith were made.



Front row (from left): Ken Jordan, pastor of Calvary in Columbia; Dan Panter, missionary to Togo, Africa; Louis Witte, lay member of Calvary; and Jerry Davidson, pastor of Holly Springs; back row: George Lee, director of missions; Harold Magee, lay member at Holly Springs; Tim Rayborn, pastor of Monticello Church; Jerry Pittman, lay member at North Columbia; Stanley Haddox, lay member at East Columbia; and Valton Douglas, pastor of North Columbia. Not pictured is Roy Wascomb, lay member of East Columbia, who joined the group enroute.

## Revival Dates

**Ridgecrest Church, Jackson:** May 10-17; Angel Martinez, evangelist; Ferrell Brakefield, music leader; Sunday at 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.; during week at 7:30 p.m.; noonday luncheon and service Tuesday through Friday with the meal being served at 11:45 a.m. and the 25-minute service beginning at 12:25 p.m.; cost of lunch, \$1.75.

**Parkway, Tusko:** May 3-7; Sunday services were at 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.; Mon.-Thurs., at 7:30 p.m.; W. Levon Moore, Atlanta director of missions, guest speaker; James Beasley, music director, First Church, Crystal Springs, leading the music; Bobby Smith, pastor.

**Galilee (Cophah):** May 8-10; at 8 p.m. Friday and Saturday; homecoming on Sunday with worship services at 11 a.m. and 1:45 p.m. and lunch at the church; Marc Padelford, Galilee pastor, and Bennie Jones of Clinton, in charge of service.

**First Church, Parthage:** May 6-10; Mike Gilchrist, Shreveport, La., evangelist; Jimmy Bilbo, Clinton, music evangelist; services 7:30 p.m. with noon services Thursday and Friday; Ed Hamilton, pastor.

For a young woman to select a first class husband, she should shut both eyes, grab hard and trust in the Lord.

**San Francisco (EP) —** Calling San Francisco the "Sodom and Gomorrah" of the nation, a coalition of fundamentalist groups says it will spend \$3 million on a media campaign attacking homosexuals.

The coalition said it will buy advertisements to build anti-gay feeling in the community and attempt to persuade homosexuals to give up their lifestyle. "I agree with capital punishment, and I believe homosexuality is one of those that could be coupled with murder and other sins," said Dean Wycoff, a spokesman for the Santa Clara Moral Majority, one of the groups involved in the campaign. Wycoff called San Francisco, where homosexuals are estimated at 15 percent of a population of 675,000, "the Sodom and Gomorrah of the United States and the armpit of this perverted movement."

**First, Lambert** will observe its first homecoming on May 24. Services will begin at 10:30 a.m. and end at 12 noon with lunch at the church.

A. M. (Sonny) Moore, former member at Lambert and pastor of FBC, Ruleville will bring the message.

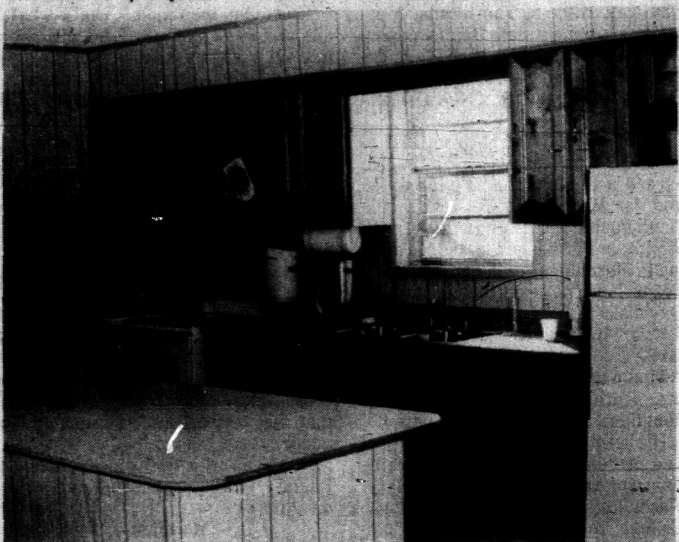
**Oak Grove Church, Neshoba County,** will have a Mother's Day homecoming on Sunday, May 10. There will be all-day services. Food will be served at 12 noon. Chris Curtis is the pastor.

**Evergreen Church, Louisville (Winston Association)** will have its Memorial Day services on May 10. Mother's Day services will be at 11 a.m. followed by dinner on the ground. A special memorial service will begin at 1:30 p.m. The pastor is Wayne Fuels.





Doty Springs Church, Attala County, bricked its sanctuary and built a fellowship hall within the past year.



Doty Springs' fellowship hall includes a modern kitchen.

## 130 years old

## Doty Springs will celebrate anniversary in new facilities

Doty Springs Church, Attala County, organized in 1851, will celebrate its 130th anniversary with homecoming at the church, Sunday, May 17. Dinner will be served on the grounds.

Joe K. Hill of Jackson, Doty Springs pastor, said, "Since last May, when the church began a building project with no building fund or building committee, members have built a fellowship hall, bricked the sanctuary and fellowship hall, dug a deep well, and installed new stained glass church doors."

The fellowship hall includes kitchen, two restrooms, and room for the entire congregation to dine. Construction on this section began in late September, 1980.

Hill, who has been pastor of the church since March, 1980, said that the construction was completed without the church's going into debt. The church plans next to install new pews.

Doty Springs has a singing every fifty Sunday, along with dinner on the ground.

## Siloam to celebrate centennial

Siloam Church, Franklin County, will hold a centennial celebration on June 7. In keeping with the occasion, dress will be in old-fashioned attire.

Activities will begin at 10:30 a.m. The first part of the day will be devoted to looking back over the past 100 years and to the reading of the church history and recognition of former members and pastors.

A Centennial Committee (Mrs. J. H. Kyzar, Chairman, Mrs. R. R. Dillard, Mrs. Larry Peterson, Mrs. Glen Whittington, and Mrs. Idelle Smith) compiled the history and planned the day's events.

Lunch will be served. The afternoon service will begin at 1:30 with special music by the Handbell Choir of First Church, Brookhaven, under direction of Durr Walker. Joe Cothen of New Orleans Seminary will bring the afternoon message, challenging the congregation to look forward to the next 100 years.

Dale Wilson is pastor and Darreyl Dugger is youth director.

## Reception will honor Fredericks

Liberty Church, Nettleton, will give a reception May 24 in honor of Mr. and Mrs. L. W. Frederick, to celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary and his 35th year as a preacher of the gospel. The reception will be from 2 to 5 p.m. in the fellowship hall of Liberty Church, states Tommy Whaley, pastor.

The Fredericks are the parents of L. Wayne Frederick, missionary to Guadeloupe, French West Indies, and of Mrs. Faye Morgan of Nettleton.

L. W. Frederick was licensed to preach at Palmetto Church, Lee County, Oct. 6, 1946, and was ordained May 19, 1948, at East Heights Church, Tupelo. He has served as pastor of the following churches: Bluff Springs, Center Hill, Cherry Creek, Friendship, Liberty, Troy (as interim), Springville, Randolph, Piney Grove, Carey Springs, and Cairo (all in Pontotoc County); Palestine and Union Hill (Lee); South Nettleton and Calvary (Monroe); New Hope (Yalobusha); Pecan Grove (Jones); Pleasant Grove and Liberty Grove (Itawamba); and Mt. Olive (Chickasaw).

He and his wife are now members of Liberty Church, Nettleton. Due to health problems he is not able to serve a full-time church.

## Sunday School Board appoints Teleteam

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (BP) — In a move to implement a denominational telecommunications system, a consultant and a special staff study team have been appointed at the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board.

Board president Grady C. Cothen named Dan K. Phillips, 37, of Birmingham, Ala., as the consultant, and appointed a Teleteam of five staffers to serve with Phillips to study program-

## Names In The News...



Mark P. McLain of Vicksburg and Lisa Dismuke, of Big Creek, graduating seniors at Mississippi State University, are available as musicians for revivals, retreats, Sunday worship services, or special occasions. Both are members of, and often soloists in, The Madrigal Singers. Both do solo and duet singing in churches; both play the piano and also compose and perform their own works. Each has directed choirs and led in youth fellowships in churches. Both have performed leading roles in campus musical productions, and they frequently entertain for various university functions. They may be contacted at Box 1654, Mississippi State, MS 39762 (telephone either BSU, Miss. State 323-5761 or Mark McLain 325-5731).

RIO DE JANEIRO, Brazil — Esther Silva Dias, emeritus president of the Brazilian Baptist Woman's Missionary Union, died April 20 in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, after a lengthy illness. She was 80.

Charles and Vanita Gibbs, pastor and wife at Fernwood (Gulf Coast), have two twin sons, Jeremy Lloyd and Joseph Ray.

Dorothy Burdeshaw, head of Physical Education, Health and Recreation at Mississippi University for Women, Columbus, has received the 1981 Alumnae Achievement Award from Judson College, Baptist college at Marion, Ala. The award was presented during a luncheon at the college on J Day, April 4. Miss Burdeshaw is a member of First Church, Columbus.

Joe Kelly was ordained to the ministry during a service at his home church, Trinity Church, Wayne County. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph E. (Buck) Kelly and is married to the former Dennis Bryant. Kelly, who attended Clarke College, is now a student at Blue Mountain and is serving as youth minister at a church near the college.

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Second Avenue Church, Laurel has called Jerry E. Oswald of Hattiesburg as pastor, effective July 1. He is presently interim pastor of the church.

A native of Starkville, Oswald is a graduate of Mississippi State University. His theological education was received at New Orleans Seminary, where he earned both Bachelor of Divinity and Doctor of Theology degrees.

Having moved to Hattiesburg from a pastorate in Mobile, Ala., ten years ago to accept the position of chaplain of William Carey College, he subsequently served as a vice-president of the college and as an associate profes-

sor in the Department of Bible Studies and Church Vocations. He is serving his second term as a member of the Board of Ministerial Education of the Mississippi Baptist Convention.

He is married to Shervie Hornsby of East Tallahassee, Ala., and has two children.

First, Lucedale has called Fred Moseley of New Orleans Seminary as pastor emeritus. This summer Moseley will be in Iowa doing mission work. In September he will begin special ministry with the senior citizens of the Lucedale church, John L. Walker, pastor.

Richard Howe assumed the position of summer youth worker May 1 at First Church, College Park, Ga. From Tupelo, he is a graduate of Mississippi College with a B.A. degree in Bible.

Robert Fullerton assumed pastoral duties at North McComb Church, May 3. He moved from Columbia, where he served as pastor of East Columbia Church.

Fullerton, a native of Fayette, Ala., is married to the former Ann Corkren, also of Fayette. They have one daughter, Leah, 15.

He attended Brewer State Junior College in Fayette, and was graduated from Samford University, Birmingham, Ala., and New Orleans Seminary.

Penang, Malaysia — With the recent appointment of Mr. and Mrs. Samuel "Pitchai" Vengadason, the Malaysia Baptist Convention now has five missionaries under appointment. The mission board was organized in August 1980. Its work is supported entirely with funds from Baptist churches in Malaysia. The Vengadasons will work as church planters among the Tamil-speaking Indian population of Malaysia. A recent survey shows 755,000 Tamil-speaking Indians in West Malaysia.

## Missionary News

David and Lynda Daniels, missionaries to Uruguay, have completed language study and arrived on the field to begin their first term of service (address: Casilla 14052, Montevideo, Uruguay). Both were born in Miami, Fla., but he also lived in Pelahatchie, Miss. They were appointed in 1979.

Doyle and Martha Robertson, missionaries to Peru, have completed language study and arrived on the field to begin their first term of service (address: Apartado 810, Trujillo, Peru). They were appointed in 1979.

Carroll and Cheryl Camp, missionaries to Kenya, have completed language study and arrived on the field (address: P. O. Box 488, Kitale, Kenya). He is a native of Meridian.

A mother hears the voice of her own children in the voice of every child. — Jimmy Martin

## The Great Passion Play and the Ozarks: An Unbeatable Vacation Pair

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Bassfield Church (Jefferson Davis County) recently burned a note which marked the paying off of a \$25,000 obligation. The money, borrowed to pay for remodeling the auditorium, was repaid in less than three years. Pictured are, left to right, Garvin Lee, church trustee; Tommy Arinder, pastor; and Bob Baughman, chairman of the Building Committee.



Bassfield Church (Jefferson Davis County) recently bought a new 1981 Ford Super-Wagon van. This group of children, pictured, made the first trip in the van, to the Jackson Zoo. The van will be used in all phases of the ministry of the Bassfield Church, stated Tommy Arinder, pastor.

## Baptist Building sold to Criswell Foundation

DALLAS (BP) — The administrative committee of the Baptist General Convention of Texas has authorized sale of the Baptist Building to the W. A. Criswell Foundation Inc. for \$1.7 million cash.

The term include placing \$100,000 in escrow with the remainder due at the time of occupancy. Anticipated moving date of the state convention offices is late summer or early fall.

W. A. Criswell, pastor of First Baptist Church, said the building will house the 600 students from the elementary school of the church and give it room to expand.

With the acquisition of the Baptist Building, First Church and the Foundation own seven square blocks of prime downtown Dallas property valued at more than \$25 million.

In June 1980, the Texas Baptist Executive Board voted to sell the Baptist Building. The five-story building, no longer recommended for use as a convention center, is being sold to the Criswell Foundation, which is planning a move to the Baptist

Annuity Board Building at 511 North Akard was planned.

A realtor was employed and bids accepted. The asking price was \$1.8 million and the Criswell Foundation's bid was the earliest and highest of the three submitted, said James Landes, executive director of the Baptist General Convention of Texas.

Last year First Baptist completed construction of a downtown parking garage, a facility that cost more than \$7.5 million and cast the church heavily into debt with its interest payments. Criswell in December, however, launched a drive to "liberate the church" from more than \$1 million in interest on money borrowed for construction.

Since then, Criswell said, \$2.2 million in cash contributions has been raised by the congregation. The purchase of the Baptist Building, he said, while it will benefit the congregation, is unrelated to the church's finances. □

GA's of Forest Hill Church, Jackson, sponsored a Country Store on May 2 from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m. in the church's activity building. Proceeds are to be used to offset the expense of sending the girls to Camp Garaywa this summer, according to Mrs. Arlette Gaddy. Craft items, baked goods, and canned goods were sold. Wilbur M. Irwin is pastor.

Mississippi Baptist Medical Center received the Bronze Award from the United Way for its contribution of \$24,487.36 to the United Givers Fund of the capital area.

Sand Ridge Church, Lake, sent a group of Royal Ambassadors to the state RA Congress at Mississippi College Friday and Saturday before Easter. They were 100 percent in attendance (every RA on roll went to the Congress.) The Crusaders who went were Michael Jones, Carlos Leach, Joe Bennett, Troy Meeks, and Roger Bagley; and their leader, Lindsey Shoemaker. The Pioneers who went were Jesse Paul Harrison, Ronald Meeks, Gregg Bennett, Jerry Dennis, Ricky Holland, Raymond Jones, and Scott Hamm, with their leader Nicky Revette, and Cecil George, RA director.

Nivelles, Belgium — Sixteen hundred French-speaking children who attended the First National Day for Children in Nivelles, Belgium, released balloons containing applications for a Bible correspondence course. One hundred responses came back from the balloons the children released.

## Friendship plans family life meet

Friendship Church, Grenada Association, will have a Family Life Conference on Friday and Saturday nights, May 8 and 9, from 7 to 9 p.m.

The principal speakers will be James and Laurene McLemore from Hattiesburg. He is pastor of 38th Avenue Church, Hattiesburg. She is a teacher of marriage and family living at Sumrall High School.

"How To Save Your Marriage," "Single Parents," "Family Money Management," "After Divorce," "Unto A Ripe Old Age" are some of the topics to be discussed. There will be sessions for every age from bed babies through senior adults. "Those in the Grenada area who feel this conference will meet a need in their lives are invited to attend," said Sherman Date Barnette, pastor at Friendship.

## Union (Pearl River) salutes McCoy

Union Church at Caesar, Pearl River County, held Pastor Appreciation Day April 5 in honor of its pastor, G. A. McCoy, who has served there a total of 12 years, having pastored the church twice.

A tribute was given by Evelyn Lee. The following gave words of appreciation from different organizations: Z. T. Jones, Sunday School; Larry Lumpkin, Church Training; Larry Watkins, Brotherhood; Eloise Lee, W.M.U.; Kleamon Bilbo, deacons; and Dionne Williams, music.

Evelyn Lee read letters of congratulations from state Baptist leaders, the President of the Ministers' Conference of Pearl River Association, minister friends, and "preacher boys" from the church. Don Powell presented gifts from the church which included money designated for a suit for the pastor, and a rocker for his home.

Other gifts included a book, Epitaphs for a Preacher, from the Brotherhood; History of WMU to the pastor and a corsage and WMU pin to Mrs. McCoy, from the WMU; a Reference Bible from the deacons; and a plaque from the church with the dates of years of service printed on it.

Marvin K. Lee, director of missions, Pearl River Association, closed the service by paying tribute with a message entitled, "To Whom Shall We Liken This Man?" He chose characteristics from several Bible characters and likened them to McCoy. "Like David; who was timid and humble, but when the will of God and right was concerned, he could become a great warrior for God. Like Amos. He came from a lowly beginning, but came

preaching the message to 'prepare to meet God.' Like Elijah. He doesn't hesitate to condemn sin and wrong whether it is in the high or lowly. Like Jeremiah. His concern causes him to 'weep for the sins of his people.' Like Peter. Sometimes very quick to speak his mind, but 'solid as a rock' in his beliefs. Like Paul. He has a deep missionary zeal. 'But most of all,' Lee concluded, "we want him to be like Jesus, and just keep on being our pastor."

After the service a fellowship meal was served at the church.

Union Church during March, reached a high attendance of 317 for Sunday School and 156 in Church Training; 18 were baptized and 10 joined the church by letter.

A Family Life Revival was held, led by W. R. (Bill) Murfin, family life counselor at First Church, Kenner, La., Tom Larrimore, Jackson, music evangelist, led the music. On Thursday evening the young people of the church made a special effort to go out and "bring the youth in" and as a result they reached and brought to the services 125 young people.

Eight men from the church are pre-



The McCoy's

paring for various types of ministry, and are now attending Baptist schools: Richard Britton, Danny Tarter, Paul Crocker, at Clarke College; Keith Hill at Mississippi College; Cecil Jones at Blue Mountain College; and Dionne Williams, Richard Blye, Norman Rester, at New Orleans Seminary. The church is helping each one financially.

Jimmy Lowe, another "preacher boy" is serving with the Christian Service Corps in Denver, Colo., working with refugees. Union is also helping with his financial support.

## Devotional

### Half-time Christians

By Jeanette K. Kirby, Clinton

Hebrews 10:25

(King James Version)

I grew up in a small farming community where there was only one church. Tuscola Baptist Church was a "half-time" church then, and it still is. This means that we didn't have a full day of services each Sunday. We shared our pastor with another church, and he preached for us two Sundays each month. The other two Sundays we had Sunday School and "B.T.U."

There are more than 1,900 churches in the Mississippi Baptist Convention. Because of the small size of communities and congregations, some of these churches are "half-time." I know by experience that one can be a full-time Christian even if he is a member of a half-time church. I have since learned that even though most of the churches in our convention are full-time with a busy slate of activities each Lord's Day, they have many "half-time" Christians in them.

What is a "half-time" Christian? It is a Christian who attends church sporadically. The admonition of the text isn't conditional. It's not something we do when we don't have company, didn't stay out late Saturday night, or don't have plans for a picnic or other outing.

Luke 4:16 tells about Jesus going to the synagogue on the Sabbath "as his custom was." If Jesus felt the need for regular worship, how much more should we! Our responsibility to worship is threefold. The first aspect of our responsibility is to the Lord Himself. Worship is a debt the believer owes to God. It's not optional but obligatory.

The second aspect of our responsibility to worship is to the church. Each member is part of the church family and has responsibilities to the other family members. The one who fails his church is failing his fellow-members.

The third aspect of our obligation to worship is to our pastor. As Christians, we have as much responsibility to fill the pew as he does to fill the pulpit. When we aren't faithful in worship, we're saying that we don't believe he has a word from God for us.

There may be a need for "half-time" churches, but there's no excuse for our being a "half-time" Christian.



Several "Super Kids" gather and chat with Sara Lee, Director of Childhood Education at Calvary Baptist Church.

## Special Projects

The Village reports with much gratitude the fact that the Baptist Men's Group from First Baptist Church, Brandon, has recently spent several days on our India Nursery Campus renovating, repairing, and renewing Memorial Cottage. The Brotherhood Department of the Miss. Baptist Convention Board has coordinated this effort and is now working with additional groups to do further repairs needed on all of the campuses. The men from Brandon are shown taking moments out for a picture during their time on campus.



The efforts of the Brandon men and other people who are involving themselves in childcare in a very special way are being handled as "Special Projects". Response to inquiries regarding help with these projects has been an opportunity to share certain Village needs and a few Village dreams with people who choose to give or do "over and above" their regular giving. We are seeing daily how God uses willing people in very unique ways to meet needs and carry out His work. It is an exciting effort, and we are thankful to those choosing to take part.



## THE VILLAGE VIEW

FROM  
Baptist Children's Village  
P. O. Box 11308 Jackson, MS 39213

## Our Graduates

With great pride we announce the names of The Village young people who are 1981 graduating seniors. They will be participating in graduation exercises at their respective high schools.

Cjinton High School  
(May 22, 1981)  
Billy Crowe Michelle Millet  
Barber Fanchin, Mike Milner

W. P. Daniel  
New Albany, Miss.  
(May 22, 1981)

Charlotte Martin Willie Martin  
Charlene Martin Fred Martin  
Independence High School  
Independence, Miss.  
(May 5, 1981)

John W. Comans Millie Ramsey  
Charles Garrett William Allen

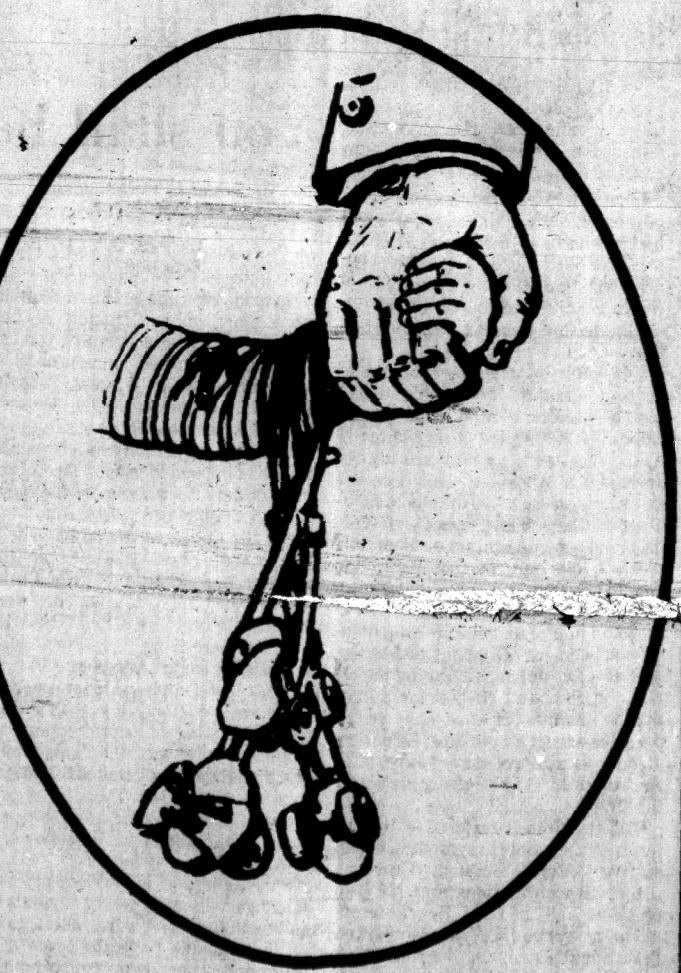


Corrie Byrd (Mrs. Earl B.) Dickerson with Mike and Gloria Shelton, Houseparents at Dickerson Place, examines the 1981 Village Annual which is dedicated to her and which was formally presented on April 28.

## Easter sharing is appreciated



What was an Easter basket now serves as a sand bucket meaning hours of fun for this Village child. We are thankful to churches, church groups, merchants, and many individuals who have been kind enough to share with us during the Easter Season. Gifts of clothing, money for clothing, Easter "happies," egg hunts, cards and devotional thoughts shared with us make it much easier to celebrate the joy and hope of this season with our children and young people.



## Mother's Day Offering The Baptist Children's Village

May 10, 1981

Presenting  
Our Staff:



Myrna Smith, Housemother, Farrow Manor Campus, left.  
Bernice Sanders, Housemother, Farrow Manor Campus, right.

## "Children: Our Special Trust"

An address on Children's Rights by Mrs. William F. Winter, premiere of a slide presentation entitled "Children: Our Special Trust," and discussion of Village philosophy and life were the topics of this annual day of emphasis on Christian Childcare. Mrs. Winter is shown with Village staff members at the noon luncheon following her address.



# Bible Book Series

## Saul, Israel's first king

By Gordon H. Sansing, pastor  
1st, Pontotoc

1 Samuel 10:1-11:15

The effectiveness of a man's lifework is largely influenced by how he starts. Saul began his career in an auspicious manner. Yet that did not secure his final success. His was a bright beginning with the very hand of God leading.

1. God's selection of Saul signaled privately (10:1,6-7)

Samuel stopped Saul and sent his servant ahead. There was the need for those two men to be alone. There, at that time and place, Samuel proclaimed God's word to Saul. It was a quiet occasion with only Samuel, Saul, and God present.

There, Samuel took the flask of oil and poured its contents on Saul's head. This ritual use of oil involved the consecration of Saul's life to the Lord. Samuel, the prophet of God, whose actions were considered to be an extension of God's activity, anointed Saul. This act designated Saul as God's choice of a king for Israel.

Samuel then explained this act to Saul. He wanted Saul to know and understand this to be God's doing. God had anointed Saul through Samuel to be "a ruler over his inheritance." "Inheritance" described God's relation to Israel. Israel was God's possession; Saul would be ruler over the possession of God.

God gave Saul three signs (6:2,3,5-6) to confirm His choice of him as king. This experience must have been marvelous indeed as God gave assurance to His chosen servant. The third sign was climactic and indicated God's Spirit within Saul.

Saul would meet a group of prophets coming down from the high place prophesying. This was an activity believed to be caused by God's Spirit within them. The Spirit of the Lord would cause Saul to prophesy and he would be changed inwardly. In fact, his whole life would be changed and Saul would receive new purpose, new direction, and a new resource, the Spirit of God. This change in Saul would give evidence to him and the people of God's power in him for kingship.

"When these signs come to you, do for yourself what the occasion requires, for God is with you." Saul could count on divine help. The one true God would be his source of new life and strength.

2. God's king announced publicly (10:24-25)

Samuel called the people together at Mizpah to introduce them to their new king, God's anointed Saul, who because of fear or humility or another reason we do not know, hid. When he was brought forth, he was a head taller in stature than the people.

It was then that Samuel said, "Do you see him whom the Lord has chosen?" You wanted a king and God has granted your request in the person of Saul. "Long live the king," was the response of the people. The people confirmed God's choice as their choice also.

Then Samuel reminded the people of the ways of a king which he had previously shared with them (8:9-18). This was written down and placed before the Lord as a reminder that God had answered their requests.

3. God's spirit guided Saul (11:6-7,11)

Samuel had instructed Saul and signs were experienced to confirm God's power in Saul's life. Divine power was available to the new king. Saul's first test was about to come and God was present.

"The Spirit of God came upon Saul mightily . . ." Nahash had besieged the city of Jabesh. When word of this reached Saul, God's promise of divine power became reality. God's Spirit empowered Saul for saving action. Saul's anger, not loss of temper, was kindled by God's Spirit, and under the Spirit's leading, Saul moved quickly to assume leadership.

The sending of pieces of the slain animals was both a call to action and an implied threat. Groups that did not respond might be treated like the slain animals. Saul called the people to follow as he and Samuel led. The result was that the "fear of the Lord fell on the people, and they came out as one man." The awe of divine power produced a unified response of the people.

The men of Jabesh sent word to Nahash that they would come out to them tomorrow. Nahash took this to mean surrender. In the meantime, Saul had organized and prepared the people for battle. The next morning Saul's army attacked on three sides. The battle was short-lived as the Ammonites were defeated.

4. God's anointed reaffirmed by the people (11:14-15)

Following this overwhelming victory, the people asked: How could anyone refuse to acknowledge Saul as

king? They decided that those who refused to acknowledge him should be put to death. But Saul refused, and Samuel suggested a better idea which would result in a unified people.

Samuel invited the people to Gilgal, a well-established place of worship. There they would "renew the kingdom." This means they would make anew or repair their vow to the Lord. There they would dedicate themselves and the nation to the King of Kings. Samuel knew this would rally support for Saul and effect greater unity among the people.

In a religious exercise, Saul was made king before the Lord. They showed their gratitude to God by making sacrificial thank offerings. In short, they enjoyed a revival of religion with great rejoicing.

This reminds us of a need in our day. It would be marvelous to enjoy a revival of Christian faith with rejoicing. Woodrow Wilson expressed a challenge in 1923 which is still relative. He said:

"Our civilization cannot survive materially unless it is redeemed spiritually. It can be saved only by being permeated with the Spirit of Christ, and being made free and happy by the practices which spring out of that Spirit. Only thus can discontent be driven out and all the shadows lifted. . . Here is the final challenge to our churches, . . . to everyone who fears God or loves his country. Shall we not all earnestly cooperate to bring into the new day?"

### Revival Results

Linwood (Neshoba): April 19-24; ten professions of faith; Charles Maples, evangelist; Mickey Gentry, music director; Tommy Anderson, pastor.

Bethlehem (Simpson): April 5-8; S. W. Valentine, evangelist; Bob Harris, song leader; R. G. Stewart, pastor; two by letter; one profession of faith.

Camp Ground (Yalobusha): March 15-18; eight professions of faith during the youth-led revival conducted by a BSU team from Blue Mountain College; four more professions of faith made two weeks later during the study of Philippians led by James Travis, professor of Bible at Blue Mountain College; Danny Munson, BMC grad, pastor.

# SCRAPBOOK

## An ode to woman

Blessed is the woman  
Whose God is the Lord,  
Whose salvation is Christ,  
Whose comforter is the Holy Spirit,  
Whose creed is the Bible, God's Word;  
Her testimony is light  
To those who walk in darkness.

Blessed is the woman  
Whose beauty is virtue,  
Whose strength is truth,  
Whose staff is wisdom,  
Whose sword is love;  
Her presence is comfort  
To those with broken hearts.

Blessed is the woman  
Whose heart is single,  
Whose tongue is restrained,  
Whose hands are busy,  
Whose mind is mature;  
Her joy is living  
For those to whom she gives.

Peace and length of days  
Are her promise;  
Life is her reward,  
Blessed is this woman.

"Her price is far above rubies."

—Jimmy Martin, pastor  
Green's Creek

To know a mother is to know her children. —Jimmy Martin

## Freedom marks pastor's 10th

Freedom Church, Jones County, observed the 10th anniversary of its pastor, Billy Ingram, April 26. They presented the pastor and his family with corsages and a love offering of \$1,000.

A special program was presented at 10:45 a.m. One church member presented a devotion; another read "This Is Your Life, Brother Ingram." A resume of progress at the church during the past ten years was given.

A pastorage has been built; the education department has been redecorated and carpeted; a P.A. system has been installed; the sanctuary has been given a new carpet and new lighting; the church has been bricked; and the parking lot has been paved. Membership has increased from 252 to 329, with 90 baptisms. Property value has increased from \$50,000 to \$115,000; annual gifts from \$113,000 to \$419,000, and missions gifts from \$10,100 to \$882,600.

## Her heart gives back the sun

By Louise Gladrich, McComb

Mother, I saw a shop window full of flowers yesterday and the sign in the window said, "For Mother's Day." I thought, "Which of these flowers are the most like her?" But I knew that none of them would do—not the rose or the orchid or the lily. The only flowers worthy of you, darling, are growing in the fields, wild flowers, the harbingers of spring. These are the valiant ones that bloom as generously on a rocky hill as in a meadow green, and when the storms come they bend with the wind, not breaking. When the skies clear, they stand erect and free their golden heads, giving back the sun.

In my mind I always picture your life against a background of bluebonnets, daisies, and tender violets. These springlike qualities of mind and heart

remained in you to touch my own life; something you learned earlier (maybe you were born with it?), having been the staff on which I've leaned many times without knowing. It is the quality of hope and faith ever recurring.

In all the years, I have never known an hour too dark for your endurance. You never will, for in your being there is a Source of strength that reaches back into the heart of spring itself. It is more than a promise of renewal; it is the sure knowledge that in a world where flowers bloom each May, unbidden hope and faith are justified. On this Mother's Day the fields are bright with those flowers—and I say to them, "Bloom this day in her name, for she is one of you. Her heart, like yours, gives back the sun."

## Two shepherds in a nursing home

See the old one in the wheel chair.  
She looks regal there—  
a dowager queen forever well-behaved.

"Oh, do you think they'll all be saved?" crooned a young-old woman searching for her children's security before yielding to weird medical prognosis that she must soon return to dust.

"Mine all came back," confirmed the strong soul. "Our Christian home made it easier than for some."

"Oh, it is in the very genes of my kids who are in their teens," impassioned the other. "It is their heritage to love the Lord. Surely they'll pray and take Him at his word."

Her family came to see her then on a holiday. She smiled at their transient gifts, even while her earth tongue stumbled on one plea that for X number of years they not wander areas dangerously before they move to know Jesus' love.

Even now the Son of God is coming to meet her and she would consign her own to Him forever, knowing with gentle mother heart reluctantly still, although He is near, they'll find Him only of their own free will.

—Violet Tackett

## The difference between boys and girls

In all a grandmother's glory,  
I read my grandchildren a bedtime story,  
"Twinkle, twinkle little star,  
How I wonder what you are"  
And as I read, Mary Elizabeth said:  
"Here, Buddy, I have you a little star"  
And handed it to me gently from fantasy afar;  
And as I read, Thomas said:  
"Hey! Hey! Buddy! Let's go spear a star!"  
Charging with sword into fantasy afar.

—Sarah Pearson Peugh, also known as "Buddy"

# Uniform Lesson

## Pioneer of our salvation

By Tommie Rayburn, pastor  
First, Booneville

Hebrews 2:10-13

The word pioneer reminds us of travelers in covered wagons fording dangerous rivers, crossing wide plains, wheeling their caravans into a tight circle for protection at night, and finally settling down to plow the prairie and make it a wheat field.

All of the adventurous men of the old West were pioneers. Some came to trap beavers and they worked the streams until beavers became scarce. Some were buffalo hunters who destroyed great herds of bison to take their hides and leave their carcasses for the buzzards. There were prospectors looking for quick riches, and there were the bandits. Two things distinguished the pioneer from other adventurers. First, they came to stay, to establish homes, to earn a living and make a life, and build a nation. Second, they opened the way for others. They marked out trails across the wilderness, they built ferries and bridges across rivers, they built trading posts, schools, churches, and towns. First came the stagecoach and then the railroad. The pioneers made it possible for others to follow and enjoy the comforts of civilization.

Our lesson this week is called, "Jesus, the Pioneer of Our Salvation." He broke the trail through death to everlasting life, and He came to stay. He opened up the way for us to follow. He bridged the gap between death and life. Walking in His footsteps we cross the river of death into everlasting life. *Std. SS. Commentary.*

V-10 It became Him — It was becoming that Jesus should become qualified to the Saviour. It was becoming of God to send Jesus, for God will provide a perfect system of redemption.

was becoming that Jesus would take on the nature of man and redeem him from his sufferings. For whom are all things — Here is another reference to His creatorship. And entering into the plan of redemption was not an act of chance or fate. In bringing many sons unto glory — This means to bring the saved to heaven, and they would be treated as His Sons. Captain of their salvation — Jesus Christ is the commander of the army of the redeemed. Captain means the author or source of anything; therefore he is leader, chief, and prince (Acts 3:15). He is called the Prince of Life. Perfect through suffering — He was not sinful and made holy

by the sufferings he was made wholly fitted to be the Saviour of men. Because He suffered; we have a perfect model to show us how to bear afflictions; He is able to sympathize with us and help us in our temptations; He made atonement for all kinds of sins and is therefore a complete Savior.

V-11 He sanctified . . . calls them brethren — He redeemed us. He sanctified us. In redemption he created a oneness between himself and us. He is willing to be ranked with us. He is the head of the family and we are members of the royal family of God.

V-12 I will declare thy name — This is a quotation of Psalm 22:22. The 22nd Psalm is a prediction of Christ. Much that was said was actually fulfilled in the ministry of Christ. Here is another statement that we are closely related to God. We are his brothers. It also shows that we are united with him and we worship him in the church.

V-13 Again I will put my trust in Him — This is language that shows his confidence in God. It shows that he partook of the feelings of the children of God, and regarded himself as identified with them. It shows that he is one with his people.

V-14 That through death — The work of destroying the devil was accomplished by his own dying and in order to do this it was necessary for him to become a man. Angels do not die, and he did not take on the nature of angels. The Son of God in his divine nature could not die, and therefore he assumed a form in which he could die — the form of a man. Destroy — This does not mean killing, but bringing into subjection or crushing his power. Jesus came to destroy the kingdom of Satan in the world, and to set up another kingdom in its place. The power of death — Albert Barnes says that he understands this to mean that the devil is the cause of death in the world. He was the means of its introduction. He is the cause of its long and melancholy reign. It does affirm that he does not have any power in bringing death, but that death is a part of his dominion. He introduced death, seduced man from God, and brought on the sorrows which result in death.

V-15 And deliver them — He delivers us from the fear of death. In death there is fear (1) of the dying pain, (2) of the darkness and gloom of mind that

beyond (4) of the chilliness, darkness, and loneliness of the tomb (5) of the solemn trial at the bar of God (6) of the condemnation which awaits the guilty. Christ enables one to look calmly on death and the judgment, and to feel that all will be well.

V-16 Nature of angels — He came to redeem humanity, not angels, therefore he became a man. Seed of Abraham — The writer of this letter is addressing Jews, for they are the descendants of Abraham. This does not limit his atonement for the whole race. The fact that you love one of your children and provide for him and tell him that you love him does not mean that you do not love your other children.

V-17 Faithful high priest — He is merciful in that he knows how to have pity on us in our afflictions and trials, and he is faithful in performing the office of high priest. He became a man that he might experience what we experience except for our sins. He understands how a race of sinners exposed to the wrath of God needs mercy and faithfulness.

V-18 He Himself suffered — He suffered and he is able to sympathize with sufferers. Being tempted — He was subjected to afflictions that his true character may be tried. He was tempted to sin; yet he did not sin. He showed that he had a strength of virtue which could bear all that could ever seduce him from attachment to God, and at the same time make him a perfect model for those who would be tried in the same manner. Able to succor — He is able to sympathize with those who suffer, those who have been tempted, those who have been sick, those who have lost a child, and those who have placed loved ones in the grave. Christ is able to suffer because in it they (1) become like their Master (2) are able to become more useful in helping others who suffer. In affliction may we always look to Him. Let us not look to philosophy; let us not deaden our feelings in the art of anti-Christian religions. But may we go to Jesus. He cares! Take your burden to the Lord and leave it there.

Sweetness sat enthroned like a queen in her heart and reigned to the outermost limits of her personality. —Jimmy Martin

"Honor thy mother" (Ex. 20:12). [31]

# Life and Work Lesson

## You shall be my witnesses

By James L. Heflin, pastor  
FBC, Greenville

Acts 1:8; 17:10-12; John 4:7-10;  
Acts 16:9-10

Several years ago Southern Baptists were part of a Crusade of the Americas. To help prepare for the crusade we studied an approach to witnessing entitled "Witness, Take the Stand." It began with each person's telling his own experience of salvation.

A witness is a person who tells others what has happened to him. One of the most powerful witnesses in the early church declared: "We cannot but speak the things which we have seen and heard." (Acts 4:20). Peter and Paul had a testimony to give. They were witnesses, just as Christ had instructed them to be.

I. In all the earth (Acts 1:8)  
Jesus had completed his mission on earth. He spent forty days with his disciples following his resurrection, revealing that he was alive indeed and teaching them many things relating to the kingdom of God. Then, as he prepared to ascend to the Father, he gave these great words to his followers: "Ye shall be my witnesses."

Christians and his witnesses. Our message tells of a personal relationship with him. The words of our Lord on that hillside have the force of a command. There is no option for the Christian. We are witnesses.

Christ gave the content of the message witnesses are to tell. "You shall be witness unto me." The message was to be about the Lord. He had been crucified but had risen from the dead, something no other person had ever done. Their story was his story.

Jesus also gave the geographical outline of their mission. First, they would tell of Jesus in Jerusalem where they were. Then they were to spread out into Judea. Then they were to go beyond their own land to Samaria, where the despised Samaritans lived. Finally, they would go to the ends of the earth.

No area of our world should be neglected. Jesus has given us Christians a plan to conquer the world for him. Our mission is not complete until we have gone everywhere with the gospel. That fact is at the heart of the Bold Mission Thrust.

II. To those who search the scriptures (Acts 17:10-12)  
On his second missionary journey

Paul arrived in Berea under less than desirable circumstances. He and Silas were sent out of Thessalonica under the cover of night to protect them from angry mobs of Jews who resented his preaching (17:1-4).

Paul always went first to the synagogue (temple, place of worship). He felt a strong compassion for his own people and took the gospel first to them. His great desire was to see them get saved (see Romans 10:1).

The Jews in Berea were devout and noble people (v. 11). They knew the Scriptures. When Paul spoke to them they listened with minds ready to receive his words. Then they searched their Scriptures to verify his words. "Because of their quick minds and knowledge of the Scriptures they were prepared for Paul's message. Many of them believed, including some Greek women of nobility and some of the men. Already persons outside the realm of the Jews were beginning to respond to the gospel.

A great thrill comes to the messenger of God when he speaks to people who are familiar with the Bible and who are willing to listen to his words. He becomes more eager to speak as he looks into the eyes of people who are anxious to hear. "Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness: for they shall be filled" (Matthew 5:6).

III. To all people (John 4:7-10, 42)  
Jesus himself set the example for his disciples in witnessing. He and his followers were on their way back to Galilee from Judea. Their route took them through Samaria.

The Jews hated the Samaritans because the Samaritans had intermarried with their captors hundreds of years earlier. The Jews considered the Samaritans impure.

As Jesus and his group of disciples came to Sychar, a Samaritan city, they stopped at Jacob's well. Jesus was tired and sat down by the well to rest (v. 6). The time was about noon.

While Jesus rested, a woman from the city approached the well to draw water (v. 7). Jesus asked her for a drink. He was thirsty as well as hungry. The disciples had gone into the city to get some food (v. 8). Jesus wanted a drink of water but had no jar with which to draw from the well.

Jesus surprised the woman by asking her for a drink (v. 9). She replied quickly with a question of her own. Why would he, a Jew, ask a Samaritan

for a drink? She knew well the hatred between the two peoples. They would not speak to each other or have any dealings with each other. She was astonished at his words.

Jesus gave a gentle but firm answer. If the woman only knew who was speaking to her; if she only knew of God's gift of everlasting water to quench her spiritual thirst, she would be asking him for that drink (v. 10). Living water is that which gives life. He spoke of spiritual matters.

People the world over are searching for the physical when the spiritual matters most. Jesus said, "The wrong things. . . . God's gift they would ask for instead."

Our Lord's encounter with the woman at the well also instructs us that we should cross all barriers with the message of everlasting life. All people, no matter who they are or where they are, need this word.

The Lord revealed his identity to the woman at the well and she believed on him as God's Messiah. She ran back into the city to tell her friends and neighbors of her discovery. Because of her testimony many others believed on Christ. They told her that it was not her testimony alone that convinced them. They knew that Christ was the Savior of the world (v. 42).

IV. To those who seek (Acts 16:9-10)  
One of the great moments of Paul's life occurred while he was at Troas on his second missionary journey. He had wished to go into Bithynia, but the Holy Spirit said no. He then went to Troas and it was there that he learned why the Spirit refused to let him go to Bithynia.

While at Troas Paul had a vision. A man from Macedonia appeared to him and urged (begged) him to come over into Macedonia and help them (v. 9).

Today the "Macedonian Call" refers to the call from men in foreign lands for Christians to come and bring them the gospel. There is a need for the message of salvation in all the world. For that reason Southern Baptists have sent missionaries to more than 90 foreign countries.

Straightway (immediately) Paul and his traveling companions prepared to leave for Macedonia (v. 10). Thus the gospel was introduced into Europe. It is believed that Luke joined Paul's company at that point in the journey.